# Attachment A

OMB Number: 4040-0004 xpiration Date: 12/31/2022

			Expiration Date: 12/31/202			
Application fo	r Federal Assista	ance SF-424				
* 1. Type of Submi	ssion:	* 2. Type of Application:	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):			
Preapplicatio	n	New				
Application		Continuation	* Other (Specify):			
Changed/Co	rrected Application	Revision				
* 3. Date Received	:	Applicant Identifier:				
Completed by Grants.	gov upon submission.					
5a. Federal Entity I	dentifier:		5b. Federal Award Identifier:			
91-0868056			NA			
State Use Only:						
6. Date Received b	y State:	7. State Application	ı Identifier:			
8. APPLICANT IN	FORMATION:					
* a. Legal Name:	Northwest Educa	ational Service Distr	ict 189			
* b. Employer/Taxp	ayer Identification Nur	mber (EIN/TIN):	* c. UEI:			
91-0868056			WML2CBM6SE95			
d. Address:						
* Street1:	1601 R Avenue	)				
Street2:	Street2:					
* City:	* City: Anacortes					
County/Parish:	County/Parish: Skagit					
* State:	WA: Washington					
Province:						
* Country:	USA: UNITED S	TATES				
* Zip / Postal Code	98221-2276					
e. Organizational	Unit:					
Department Name:			Division Name:			
Behavioral He	alth Services					
f. Name and cont	act information of p	erson to be contacted on m	natters involving this application:			
Prefix: Ms	S.	* First Nam	ne: Natalie			
Middle Name:						
* Last Name: Gi	ıstafson					
Suffix:						
Title: Assistan	t Director, Beha	avioral Health Svcs				
Organizational Affiliation:						
Northwest Educational Service District 189						
* Telephone Numb	er: 360-299-4038	3	Fax Number:			
* Email: ngusta	fson@nwesd.org					

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424				
Application for Federal Assistance 3F-424				
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:				
G: Independent School District				
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:				
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:				
* Other (specify):				
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:				
Department of Education				
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:				
84.184				
CFDA Title:				
School Safely National Activities				
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:				
ED-GRANTS-100422-001				
* Title:				
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE): Safe & Supportive Schools: School-Based				
Mental Health Services (SBMH) Grant Program, Assistance Listing Number 84.184H				
13. Competition Identification Number:				
84-184H2022-2				
Title:				
84.184H School Based Mental Health				
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):				
NWESD_SBMHP+_AreasAffected.pdf  Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment				
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:				
NWESD School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMHP+): Responding to the needs of students with the				
most complex mental health concerns				
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.				
Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments				

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424						
16. Congressional Districts Of:						
* a. Applicant WA-002 * b. Program/Project WA-002						
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.						
NWESD_SBMHP+_CongressionalDistricts.pdf  Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment						
17. Proposed Project:						
* a. Start Date: 12/30/2022 * b. End Date: 12/31/2027						
18. Estimated Funding (\$):						
* a. Federal 11,852,401.00						
* b. Applicant 192,053.00						
* c. State 0 . 00						
* d. Local 2,934,287.00						
* e. Other 0 . 00						
*f. Program Income 0.00						
* g. TOTAL 14,978,741.00						
<ul> <li>b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.</li> <li></li></ul>						
21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)  ** I AGREE  ** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.						
Authorized Representative:						
Prefix: Mr. * First Name: Larry						
Middle Name:						
* Last Name: Francois						
Suffix:						
* Title: Superintendent						
* Telephone Number: 360-299-4003 Fax Number:						
* Email: [lfrancois@nwesd.org						
* Signature of Authorized Representative: Completed by Grants.gov upon submission. * Date Signed: Completed by Grants.gov upon submission.						

# Areas Affected by Project

## 84.184H School Based Mental Health

LEA: Northwest Educational Service District 189

State: Washington

Region: Northwest Washington

Counties: Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom

# Recognized Tribes:

- 1. Lummi Tribe
- 2. Nooksack Indian Tribe
- 3. Samish Indian Nation
- 4. Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
- 5. Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
- 6. Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
- 7. Tulalip Tribes
- 8. Upper Skagit Indian Tribe

# **School Districts:**

- 1. Anacortes
- 2. Arlington
- 3. Bellingham
- 4. Blaine
- 5. Burlington-Edison
- 6. Concrete
- 7. Conway
- 8. Coupeville
- 9. Darrington
- 10. Edmonds
- 11. Everett
- 12. Ferndale
- 13. Granite Falls
- 14. Index
- 15. La Conner
- 16. Lake Stevens
- 17. Lakewood
- 18. Lopez Island

- 19. Lynden
- 20. Marysville
- 21. Meridian
- 22. Monroe
- 23. Mount Baker
- 24. Mount Vernon
- 25. Mukilteo
- 26. Nooksack Valley
- 27. Oak Harbor
- 28. Orcas Island
- 29. San Juan Island
- 30. Sedro-Woolley
- 31. Shaw Island
- 32. Snohomish
- 33. South Whidbey
- 34. Stanwood-Camano
- 35. Sultan

NWESD Areas Affected by Project 10/22/2022

# **Congressional Districts in Project**

84.184H School Based Mental Health

LEA: Northwest Educational Service District 189

NWESD School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMHP+): Responding to the Needs of Students with

the Most Complex Mental Health Concerns

State: Washington

LEA Region: Northwest Washington

Congressional Districts in Project: 1 and 2

Congressional District 2	Congressional District 1
Anacortes - 98221	Arlington – 98223
Bellingham – 98225	Bellingham – 98225
Burlington-Edison – 98233	Blaine – 98230
Conway – 98274	Burlington-Edison – 98233
Coupeville - 98239	Concrete – 98237
Edmonds – 98036	Darrington - 98241
Everett - 98201	Granite Falls - 98252
Ferndale - 98248	Index - 98256
La Conner - 98257	Marysville – 98270
Lake Stevens – 98258	Lake Stevens – 98258
Lakewood - 98271	Monroe - 98272
Lopez Island - 98261	Snohomish - 98290
Lynden - 98264	Sultan - 98294
Marysville – 98270	
Meridian - 98226	
Mount Vernon - 98273	
Mukilteo - 98275	
Nooksack - 98247	
Oak Harbor - 98277	
Orcas Island - 98245	
San Juan Island - 98250	
Shaw Island - 98286	
Sedro-Woolley - 98284	
South Whidbey - 98260	
Stanwood-Camano - 26920	

# **Budget Narrative File(s)**

\* Mandatory Budget Narrative Filename: NWESD\_SBMHP+\_BudgetNarrative.pdf

Add Mandatory Budget Narrative

Delete Mandatory Budget Narrative

View Mandatory Budget Narrative

To add more Budget Narrative attachments, please use the attachment buttons below.

Add Optional Budget Narrative

Delete Optional Budget Narrative

View Optional Budget Narrative

NWESD School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMHP+): Responding to the Needs of Students with the Most Complex Mental Health Concerns

**SECTION C: BUDGET NARRATIVE** 

# **60 Month Project Period**

#### 1. PERSONNEL

One <u>Director of NWESD's Department of Behavioral Health and Prevention will dedicate 0.05 FTE</u> during the project period (Years 1-5) to lead project-related policy and system change efforts to enable durable retention of credentialed SBMHP+, provide fiscal oversight, and supervise and evaluate the Asst. Director. Base salary is \$146,646 plus a 3.5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) annually beginning in Year 2. Year 5 will be 100% supported by non-Federal matching funds. Total = \$30,890 direct cost plus \$8,406 non-Federal match.

One <u>Assistant Director of NWESD's Department of Behavioral Health and Prevention will dedicate 0.25</u> <u>FTE</u> during the project period (Years 1-5) to provide project-related leadership and direction, establish partnerships and negotiate formal agreements, develop a framework for diversifying the workforce, leverage a variety of funding mechanisms, convene statewide stakeholders, provide licensed clinical supervision for up to three SBMHP+, and supervise and evaluate the Behavioral Health Administrator. Base salary is \$130,080 plus a 3.5% COLA annually beginning in Year 2. A percentage of this FTE will be supported by non-Federal matching funds: 49% in Year 1, 100% in Year 2, 41% in Year 3, and 100% in Year 5. Total = \$73,170 direct cost plus \$101,145 non-Federal match.

One Behavioral Health Administrator will dedicate 1.0 FTE to during the project period (Years 1-5) to oversee implementation of all program activities including recruitment, retention, and workforce diversification, provide licensed clinical supervision for up to four SBMHP+, oversee the electronic record system for confidential and consistent case management and reporting, maintain compliance with all state and federal requirements, monitor expenditures, ensure quality management of services, oversee program audit, coordinate with school and community partners, and supervise and evaluate the program

*NWESD SBMHP+ Budget Narrative* 

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manager, clinical supervisor, and administrative assistant. Base salary is \$115,024 plus a 3.5% COLA annually beginning in Year 2. Ninety percent (90%) of this position will be grant-funded and 10% will be funded through non-Federal matching funds. Total = \$555,129 direct cost plus \$61,681 non-Federal match.

One Program Manager/Clinical Supervisor will dedicate 1.0 FTE during the project period (Years 1-5) to support implementation of project-related activities including recruitment, hiring, retention, diversification of workforce, training and professional development for SBMHP+, data collection and utilization, reporting, outreach to schools where SBMHP+ is placed, and licensed clinical supervision for up to seven SBMHP+. Base salary is \$108,430 plus a 3.5% COLA annually beginning in Year 2. This position is fully funded by the grant. Total = \$581,422 direct cost.

One Clinical Supervisor will dedicate 0.50 FTE beginning in Year 2 through Year 5 to provide licensed clinical supervision for up to six SBMHP+ and contribute expertise to development and delivery of training and professional development. Base salary is \$72,192 (at 50% = \$43,080) plus a 3.5% COLA and a 4.5% step increase annually beginning in Year 3. This position is fully funded by the grant. Total = \$194,123 direct cost.

One Administrative Assistant will dedicate 1.0 FTE (SECTION D ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES) during the project period (Years 1-5) to provide clerical and logistical support for the life cycle of the project, including coordinating work that directly impacts recruitment, hiring, retention, service delivery, and supports mileage reimbursement, travel arrangements, data entry and data integrity, monitoring and reports, and strengthening implementation of the electronic records system within organization and department operations. Base salary is \$60,195 plus a 3.5% COLA annually beginning in Year 2. A percentage of FTE (62% in Year 1, 67% in Year 2, and 100% in Years 3-5) will be supported by Section D Administrative Expenses and a percentage will be funded by non-Federal matching funds (38% in Year 1, 33% in year 2). Total = \$279,359 admin expense (Section D) plus \$49,691 non-Federal match.

*NWESD SBMHP+ Budget Narrative* 

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Twenty School-Based Mental Health Professionals (SBMHP+) will dedicate 1.0 FTE (190 days per year), with 10 hired in Year 1, plus four hired in Year 2, plus three hired in Year 3, plus three hired in Year 4 and continuing in Year 5. SBMHP+ will deliver direct services to students, focusing 80% of their time on Tier 3 MTSS support services and 20% of their time on Tier 1 and 2 MTSS support services. Base salary is \$72,192.34 (hired in Year 1) plus a 3.5% COLA and a 4.5% step increase annually beginning in Year 2. In Year 1 (10 SBMHP+) and 2 (14 SBMHP+), 75% of SBMHP+ salary will be funded by the grant and 25% will be funded by non-Federal match. In Year 3 (17 SBMHP+), 74% of SBMHP+ salary will be funded by the grant and 26% will be funded by non-Federal match. In Year 4 (20 SBMHP+), 73% of SBMHP+ salary will be funded by the grant and 27% will be funded by non-Federal match. In Year 5 (20 SBMHP+), 70% of SBMHP+ salary will be funded by the grant and 30% will be funded by non-Federal matching funds. Total = \$5,458,392 direct cost plus \$2,028,882 non-Federal match.

#### 2. FRINGE BENEFITS

Fringe benefits are calculated based on salary. Non-Federal matching funds contributed to fringe benefits are allocated based upon the percent of FTE supported.

Fringe benefits include medical, long-term disability, workers compensation, Medicare, Social and Security (FICA) at a rate of 26.21% of salary. A 10% increase is budgeted each year to ensure stability of benefits authorized by the Washington State Heatlh Care Authority for school employees. Total = \$2,037,125 direct cost plus \$642,140 non-Federal match.

Fringe benefits also include state retirement benefits at a rate of 11.79% of salary. NWESD participates in the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems School Employees Retirment System (SERS). Total = \$812,700 direct cost plus \$234,395 non-Federal match.

## 3. TRAVEL

The project will serve schools in five counties in northwest Washington state. SBMHP+ will have assigned school placements and may be required to travel to multiple schools to perform project related duties. Mileage to support program activities is based on an average of 150 miles per SBMHP+ per month

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*NWESD SBMHP+ Budget Narrative* 

for 10 months. NWESD's current reimbursement rate for use of a personal automobile is \$0.62 per mile. The following amounts and miles are budgeted (Total = \$84,630 direct cost):

- \$11,160 to support 12 staff for up to 18,000 miles in Year 1
- \$14,880 to support 16 staff up to 24,000 miles in Year 2
- \$17,670 to support 19 project staff for up to 28,500 miles in Year 3
- \$20,460 to support 22 project staff for up to 33,000 miles in Year 4
- \$20,460 to support 22 project staff for up to 33,000 miles in Year 5

Project-related conference travel is budgeted at \$6,058 each project year to support up to three staff to attend the *Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health* facilitated by the University of Maryland School of Medicine. While this conference has been held virtually for the past two years, this budget includes the estimated cost of attending in-person. The Assistant Director, Behavioral Health Administrator, and Program Manager/Clinical Supervisor will attend. Travel estimates are based on the last in-person conference held in 2019 in Austin, Texas, November 7-9 using published rates available on October 28, 2022 (Total = \$30,290 direct cost):

- \$17,550: \$3,510 each year (\$1,170 per person) for round trip airfare (Bellingham, WA to Austin, TX)
- \$8,400: \$1,680 each year (\$560 per person) for four nights lodging in Austin, TX
- \$3,840: \$768 each year (up to \$64 per diem per person) for up to four days in Austin, TX
- \$500: \$100 each year for ground transportation from airport to hotel and hotel to airport
- 4. EQUIPMENT No funding is requested for equipment.
- 5. SUPPLIES

Project-related supplies necessary to support student-centered services include (Total = \$29,150 direct cost):

• \$2,025 (\$25 per SBMHP per year) for pens, post-it notes, spiral notebooks

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NWESD SBMHP+ Budget Narrative

- \$600 for Laptop case (\$30 per person)
- \$6,325 for one-time purchase of cell phones at \$275 per SBMHP and clinical supervisor
- \$4,000 for Adobe License at \$200 per person per year
- \$16,200 for therapeutic supplies such as manipulatives, puppets, and other tools and materials that facilitate mental health counseling of children and adolescents (\$200 per SBMHP+ per year)

### 6. CONTRACTUAL

Translation and interpreter services will be accessible to SBMHP+. The hourly rate of \$100 is based on an existing vendor contract. This budget estimates approximately two hours per month per SMBHP+. Total = \$16,200 direct cost.

In addition to no-cost advertising methods, NWESD will pay to boost job postings for SBMHP+ opportunities quarterly, or until all positions are filled. The estimated cost is based on existing rates of \$300 each "boost". The total project cost of advertising for recruitment is \$6,000.

The annual cost for a Washington State Behavioral Health Agency license renewal is \$1,600 annually. Retaining this licensure supports retention of SBMHP+ seeking or maintaining state licensure and provides the groundwork for the potential of billing for services in the future. Total = \$8,000 direct cost. SBMHP+ will receive 40 hours of training and professional development. Professional development will be offered by the project leadership team, and through contracted professional development at a cost of \$250 per SBMHP annually. The following professional development opportunities are identified and will be selected based on the needs of SBMHP and the student population they serve. Training/professional development may include Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Play Therapy, Family Systems, and Solution Focused Brief Therapy. Costs estimates are based 2021 three-day virtual clinical training from Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress which is followed by six months of consultation group participation at a cost of \$250 per person. Total = \$20,250 direct cost.

7. CONSTRUCTION No construction-related expenditures in this project.

*NWESD SBMHP+ Budget Narrative* 

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## 8. OTHER

Project staff will have access to an electronic record system to support confidential case management and reporting at an annual cost of \$720 per license. This supports Tier 3 MTSS intervention for approximately 800 students each year. Total = \$72,000 direct cost.

Cell phone service will be contracted at a cost of \$55 per month per person for 12 months (60 months total). This supports continuous communication between SMBHP+, families, colleagues who work at school placements sites throughout the region and ensures SBMHP+ are not sharing their personal phone numbers. Total = \$62,700 direct cost.

Tech fees are based on \$3,882 and include a computer, software, cables and access to technology support services in NWESD. Total = \$374,615 direct cost.

Space fees are based on \$4,865 per cubicle plus secure storage. Total = \$59,730 direct cost.

A retention bonus of \$1,200 will be offered to SBMHP+ annually (following 12 months of service) at the time of contract renewal. Retention bonuses for mental health professionals have become common practice. Total = \$97,200 direct cost.

A reimbursement of up to \$500 per SBMHP+ is budgeted to support continuing education and professional development required for staff to obtain and retain state licensure. This supports retention efforts. Total = \$42,500 total direct cost.

Registration for the annual School-Based Mental Health national conference is estimated at \$200 per person per year. Total = \$3,000 direct cost.

Section D Limited Administrative Expenses includes Other Expenses for phone service and support (\$3,300), computer, software, tech support (\$19,410), workspace and storage (\$24,325), and an annual Adobe license (\$1,000).

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# 9. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS

*NWESD SBMHP+ Budget Narrative* 

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Direct costs total (Section A Budget Summary) \$10,649,935 for the project period. This includes \$6,893,126 in personnel costs, \$2,849,824 in fringe benefits, \$114,920 for project-related mileage and travel, \$29,150 for supplies, \$50,450 for contractual services, and \$712,465 in other project-related expenses.

Administrative expenses total (Section D Limitation on Administrative Expenses) \$439,931 and includes \$279,359 in personnel costs, \$112,537 in fringe benefits, plus \$48,035 in other expenses which include a license for the electronic case management system, computer, software, related tech support fees, phone and workstation. This is 5% of direct costs or less for each year.

## 10. INDIRECT COSTS

NWESD's approved Federal indirect cost rate is 7.16% effective September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023. Total indirect: \$762,536

11. TRAINING STIPENDS No training stipends allocated to this grant.

#### 12. TOTAL COSTS

The entire project cost is \$14,978,743 which includes \$11,412,471 in direct cost, \$762,535 in indirect costs, \$439,931 limited administrative expenses, and \$3,126,340 in non-Federal matching funds. The table below provides a breakdown of total costs for each year of the project and the grand total.

Budget Year	Section A	Section D	Total Fed	Section B
Year 1	\$1,361,470	\$61,147	\$1,422,617	\$342,276
Year 2	\$1,932,242	\$68,305	\$2,000,547	\$486,271
Year 3	\$2,381,812	\$100,282	\$2,482,094	\$596,877
Year 4	\$2,855,361	\$103,456	\$2,958,817	\$745,278
Year 5	\$2,881,586	\$106,740	\$2,988,326	\$955,638
Total by category	\$11,412,471	\$439,930	\$11,852,401	\$3,126,340
Percent of direct costs		4%		26%
	\$14,978,741			

# SOURCE OF MATCHING FUNDS COMMITTED

- Northwest Education Service District 189 has committed \$192,053 in non-Federal funds to support staffing.
- Skagit County has committed \$86,435 in non-Federal funds to support staffing.
- School districts, through cooperative agreements, will commit \$2,847,852 in non-Federal funds to support SBMHP+.

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#### **Abstract**

An abstract is to be submitted in accordance with the following:

- 1. Abstract Requirements
  - Abstracts must not exceed one page and should use language that will be understood by a range of audiences.
  - Abstracts must include the project title, goals, and expected outcomes and contributions related to research, policy, and practice.
  - Abstracts must include the population(s) to be served.
  - Abstracts must include primary activities to be performed by the recipient.
  - Abstracts must include subrecipient activities that are known or specified at the time of application submission.

For research applications, abstracts also include the following:

- Theoretical and conceptual background of the study (i.e., prior research that the investigation builds upon and that provides a compelling rationale for this study).
- Research issues, hypotheses and questions being addressed.
- Study design including a brief description of the sample including sample size, methods, principals, and dependent, independent, and control variables, as well as the approach to data analysis.

[Note: For a non-electronic submission, include the name and address of your organization and the name, phone number and e-mail address of the contact person for this project.]

# You may now Close the Form

You have attached 1 file to this page, no more files may be added. To add a different file, you must first delete the existing file.

\* Attachment: NWESD\_SBMHP+\_Abstract.pdf Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

# NWESD School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMHP+): Responding to the Needs of Students with the Most Complex Mental Health Concerns

Northwest Educational Service District 189 (NWESD) is an LEA as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7801(30) and a licensed Behavioral Health Agency, providing a continuum of school-based mental and behavioral health services across northwest Washington serving students in 35 school districts in Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties on land of Lummi, Nooksack, Samish, Swinomish, Stillaguamish, Sauk-Suiattle, Upper Skagit, and Tulalip Tribes.

There is a critical need to increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health professionals (SBMHP+) with the requisite education, training, and supervision to address the needs of students with complex mental health issues. NWESD will recruit, place, support, and retain 20 SBMHP+ to provide behavioral health services for students in schools with the greatest need (Absolute Priority 2). This will increase access for up to 5,000 students (1 SBMHP+:250 students) annually, including more intensive support and case management for up to 800 students annually. To adequately support the unique cultural needs and experiences of our priority population, NWESD will seek and encourage people from diverse backgrounds and those who are from the community to become SBMHP+ (Competitive Preference Priority 2).

NWESD will scale its existing SBMHP+ services, ensuring prompt delivery of services no later than 180 days from the date of award notification. NWESD has the requisite cooperative agreements with schools, state and county health departments, and community-based organizations to deliver on the promise to protect and prioritize the needs of students with higher needs and those at greater risk of mental health challenges. Outcome measurables will be monitored for continuous improvement to increase the number of SBMHP+ hired (GPRA1) and retained (GPRA2), decrease rate of attrition (GPRA4), improve the SBMHP+ to student ratio (GPRA3), increase the number of students served (GPRA5), and increase qualified applicants from traditional underrepresented groups (GPRA6).

NWESD SBMHP+ Abstract

#### 8/25 Page 18 of 88 OMB Number: 1894-0005

Expiration Date: 06/30/2023

#### **NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS**

The purpose of this enclosure is to inform you about a new provision in the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) that applies to applicants for new grant awards under Department programs. This provision is Section 427 of GEPA, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law (P.L.) 103-382).

#### To Whom Does This Provision Apply?

Section 427 of GEPA affects applicants for new grant awards under this program. ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW AWARDS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS NEW PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.

(If this program is a State-formula grant program, a State needs to provide this description only for projects or activities that it carries out with funds reserved for State-level uses. In addition, local school districts or other eligible applicants that apply to the State for funding need to provide this description in their applications to the State for funding. The State would be responsible for ensuring that the school district or other local entity has submitted a sufficient section 427 statement as described below.)

#### What Does This Provision Require?

Section 427 requires each applicant for funds (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally-funded project or activity. The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single narrative, or, if appropriate, may

be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use the Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

# What are Examples of How an Applicant Might Satisfy the Requirement of This Provision?

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with Section 427.

- (1) An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.
- (2) An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audio tape or in braille for students who are blind.
- (3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that girls may be less likely than boys to enroll in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls, to encourage their enrollment.
- (4) An applicant that proposes a project to increase school safety might describe the special efforts it will take to address concern of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students, and efforts to reach out to and involve the families of LGBT students.

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

### **Estimated Burden Statement for GEPA Requirements**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit (Public Law 103-382). Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20210-4537 or email ICDocketMgr@ed.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1894-0005.

# Optional - You may attach 1 file to this page.

NWESD SBMHP+ GEPA.pdf

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

## **Compliance with General Education Provisions Act Section 427**

LEA: Northwest Educational Service District 189

NWESD School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMHP+): Responding to the Needs of Students with the Most Complex Mental Health Concerns

Northwest Educational Service District 189 (NWESD) will ensure that no student or staff member is denied participation based on gender, race, national origin, color, disability, sexual orientation, or age. This project is designed to increase student access to credentialed school-based mental health professionals, particularly for underserved groups at higher risk of mental health challenges including racial and ethnic minority youth, LBGTQ+ youth, low-income youth, youth in rural areas, youth in immigrant and migrant households, and homeless youth.

Northwest Educational Service District 189 (NWESD) has taken steps to mitigate barriers to access. Grant funds will be used to:

- Recruit, hire, train and support, place and retain credentialed school-based mental health professionals (SBMHP+) serving in schools furthest from services
- Recruit, hire, train and support, place and retain SBMHP+ who are from diverse backgrounds and/or from the communities served
- Provide translation/interpretation services to support virtual interventions and mental health support for students who are English Learners and their families
- Deliver school-based mental health services in-person and virtually
- Allocate time for SBMHP+ to work with families to ensure communication between home and school with constant conversations through web-based visits, phone calls, emails etc.

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OMB Number: 1894-0007

Expiration Date: 12/31/2023

U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424
Application for Federal Assistance

1. Project Director: \* First Name: Middle Name: Suffix: Prefix: \* Last Name: Natalie Gustafson Ms. Project Director Level of Effort (percentage of time devoted to grant): 25 Address: \* Street1: 1601 R Avenue Street2: \* City: Anacortes County: Skagit \* State: WA: Washington \* Zip Code: | 98221-2276 Country: USA: UNITED STATES \* Phone Number (give area code) Fax Number (give area code) 360-299-4038 \* Email Address: ngustafson@nwesd.org Alternate Email Address: 2. New Potential Grantee or Novice Applicant: a. Are you either a new potential grantee or novice applicant as defined in the program competition's notice inviting applications (NIA)? Yes No No 3. Qualified Opportunity Zones: If the NIA includes a Qualified Opportunity Zones (QOZ) Priority in which you propose to either provide services in QOZ(s) or are in a QOZ, provide the QOZ census tract number(s) below:

# 4. Human Subjects Research:

а	. Are any	esearch activities inv	olving human su	ubjects planned a	at any time durin	g the proposed	Project Period?	
	Yes	No No						
b	. Are ALL	the research activitie	s proposed desig	gnated to be exe	mpt from the req	gulations?		
	Yes	Provide Exemption(s	) #(s):	1 2	3 4	5	6 7 8	
	□ No	Provide Assurance #	(s), if available:					
(	c. If applicable, please attach your "Exempt Research" or "Nonexempt Research" narrative to this form as indicated in the definitions page in the attached instructions.							
-					Add Atta	chment [	Delete Attachment	View Attachment

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#### CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

* APPLICANT'S ORGANIZATION  Northwest Educational Service District 189				
* PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE				
Prefix: Mr. * First Name: Larry	Middle Name:			
* Last Name: Francois	Suffix:			
* Title: Superintendent				
* SIGNATURE: Completed on submission to Grants.gov * DATE	Completed on submission to Grants.gov			

# Other Attachment File(s)

\* Mandatory Other Attachment Filename: OSPI 2022-June-23 Indirect Rate Letter\_ESD 189.pdf

Add Mandatory Other Attachment

Delete Mandatory Other Attachment

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To add more "Other Attachment" attachments, please use the attachment buttons below.

Add Optional Other Attachment

**Delete Optional Other Attachment** 

View Optional Other Attachment

Old Capitol Building PO Box 47200 Olympia, WA 98504-7200



k12.wa.us

June 23, 2022

Larry Francois Superintendent Northwest ESD 189 1601 R Ave. Anacortes, WA 98221

Re: Federal indirect cost rates for the 2022-23 school year

Dear Superintendent François:

This letter represents the agreement for indirect cost rates for the 2022-23 school year for Northwest Educational Service District (ESD) 189. As the cognizant agency for ESDs, under 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix V, Part F(1), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is authorizing the following agreement with your ESD.

The following rates are for the period of September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023.

# **Federal Indirect Cost**

# Restricted:

A restricted rate of 7.16 percent is allowed to be charged against federal grants from the U.S Department of Education (USED) that contain supplement-not-supplant provisions.

# **Unrestricted:**

An unrestricted rate of 11.15 percent is allowed to be charged against federal grants that do not contain supplement-not-supplant provisions. This includes grants from other federal agencies in addition to USED.

## **State Indirect Cost**

A rate of 11 percent is allowed to be charged against state grants which pass through OSPI.

The indirect cost rates discussed above only apply to grant awards and not to contracts, cooperative agreements, and other types of agreements. Administrative charges that are part of cooperative agreements, fee for service programs, and other contracts may be determined by the ESDs and their customers under the terms of these agreements.

Indirect costs exclude all space and occupancy costs which have been charged to programs directly. Space and occupancy costs are allowed to be charged directly to programs per the 90-day letter that the ESDs submitted to the USED in 2006.

Additionally, each ESD is required to submit by February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, an indirect cost plan calculating the subsequent year's rate along with the methodology used to calculate the rates.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by email at <a href="mailto:amy.harris@k12.wa.us">amy.harris@k12.wa.us</a> or by phone at (360) 688-0485.

Sincerely,

Amy Harris

Director, Federal Fiscal Policy

cc: Lisa Matthews, Assistant Superintendent

# Christopher P. Allen, MA LMHC

Burlington, WA. <u>chrisa@fidalgo.net</u> (360) 770-4416

## Summary

Established licensed mental health professional, experienced in utilizations management, quality assurance, clinical practice, case-management, and supervisory duties. Possesses strong verbal and written communication skills. Proficient working with children and families with complex needs. Experienced in program development and implementation of innovative community and school-based mental health programs.

# **Professional Experience**

#### Northwest ESD 189

Behavioral Health Administrator- Project Manager September 2019 to present Program Manager Support Health and Resiliency in Education (SHARE) project assisting two local school districts in advancing their Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) frameworks and increasing capacity for tier 2-3 mental health and social emotional interventions. Developing and managing Skagit County school-based clinical mental health program placing mental health professionals in three local school districts.

# North Sound Behavioral Health Organization

Quality Specialist; September 2016 to June 2019

Performed numerous duties for regional Medicaid behavioral health authority including reporting and documenting regional Critical Incidents and Second Opinions, participated in determinations on Children's Long-Term Inpatient Program (CLIP). Conducted various on-site clinical quality reviews with behavioral health agency contractors. Experience with various programs and levels of care including outpatient mental health, Integrated Dual Disorders Treatment (IDDT), and Program for Assertive Community Treatment (PACT). Participated in committee addressing school-based mental health needs in the region.

#### Northwest ESD 189

Clinical Supervisor/Clinician; August 2013 to August 2016

Supervised seven clinicians providing clinical mental health services in four counties, 14 school districts. Provided clinical mental health services to children and families through school-based program. Duties included staff training and orientation, program development, contract compliance with various partners (North Sound Mental Health Administration, Skagit and Whatcom Counties, local school districts).

#### **Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield**

Utilization Management Clinician; July 2010 to June 2013

Behavioral health utilization review for insurance plan - psychiatric and substance abuse services. Reviewed inpatient, residential and outpatient levels of care for Regence Federal Employee Program and commercial lines of business in Utah, Oregon,

RESUME: Christopher P. Allen

Washington, and Idaho. Conducted medical necessity and facility intensity-of-service reviews for all levels of behavioral health services and authorized stays.

# **Skagit County - Youth and Family Services**

Intervention Specialist I and II; May 2009 to December 2009

Advocacy, assessment, referral, and treatment planning for clients identified through innovative school-based program for at-risk students. Provided direct family and individual counseling / case management services to child and adolescent clients. *IS* position II duties included supervision of case management staff providing these services.

# Mental Health Therapist

Skagit Behavioral Health - Private Practice, July 2001 to 2008.

Provide individual, couples and family therapy to clients largely through contracts with major insurance companies.

#### **Secret Harbor School**

Clinical and Associate Director/Case Manager; April 1996 to September 1999 Supervised and managed all aspects of SHS's residential programs, including transitional foster care home, chemical dependency program and thirty-bed treatment facility for emotionally, behaviorally disturbed adolescent boys. Supervised clinical team for facility, including registered nurse and three master's level therapists. Developed and implemented successful transitional residential chemical dependency recovery program.

# **Education**

Antioch University, Seattle, WA

Master of the Arts: Psychology (Focus - Children and Families)
Internship: Skagit Mental Health Center - CHAP In-home Services, Child and Family Therapy.

Seattle University, Seattle, WA

Bachelor of the Arts: Humanities

Focus: Psychology

# **Licenses and Certifications**

Washington State Licensed Mental Health Counselor: #LH00004151

Washington State Mental Health Professional

Washington State Child Mental Health Specialist

Washington State Approved Mental Health Supervisor

# Jodie DesBiens

Skagit Valley Washington 425 879-8810 - jdesbiens@newsd.org

## **EDUCATION**

Masters Educational Leadership -City of Seattle, Seattle Washington - 2009
Bachelor of Arts Education -Western Washington University -1987
Bachelor of Arts Psychology/Clinical Mental Health Western Washington University - 1981

# **CERTIFICATIONS**

Washington State Professional Education Certificate Residency Administrator
Washington State Professional Education Certificate Continuing Teacher 4-12 Social Studies/English

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Northwest Educational Service District 189 - *Director of Behavioral Health and Prevention\_2012-2022*Northwest Educational Service District 189 - *Open Doors Principal 2015 - 2021*Northshore School District - *District Substitute Principal - 2011 - 2012*Arlington School District - Weston High School – Building Principal Designee - 2010 - 2011

Arlington High School – Dean of Students - 2005 - 2010

## STATE AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- \*Collaborated with State Educational Service Directors group, Association ESD Leadership and State Network, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and other state agencies to support the sustainability of programs
- \*Testified to Washington State Legislature in support of Suicide Prevention programing in schools
- \*Briefed multiple members of the U.S. Congress to garner support for Children's Mental Health services and funding
- \*Worked with Health Care Authority and other state entities to provide leadership In Prevention /Intervention services

# **DIRECTOR OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND PREVENTION SERVICES**

NORTHWEST EDUCATIONAL DISTRICT-189 2012 - Present

Program Development, Committee Work and Supervision Experience:

- Collaborated with 5 County Health Departments to promote and fund Behavioral Health Services
- Developed relationships with Superintendents and district leaders in 35 school districts to provide a variety of Wrap Around services for at risk students.
- Assisted 35 school districts in crafting policies and procedure to meet state and federal compliance requirements
- Created 2 highly successful Drop out Reengagement High Schools
- Facilitated county partnership with NWESD Leadership to build Trauma Informed practices.
- Supervised and evaluated Teaching, Behavioral Health, Prevention, Safety Center, Reengagement,
   Treatment, and Educational Advocate staff as well as administrative staff.
- Oversaw all programs including Behavioral Health, SUD Treatment, Student Assistance, Prevention and Intervention, Safety and Threat Assessment, Reengagement and Attendance, Homeless and Unaccompanied Minors Open Doors High School, and Educational Advocate/Juvenile Justice
- Created and Implemented Threat Assessment and developed Behavioral Health Agency
- Active member of the regional Children's' Policy Executive Team
- Developed and hosted System of Care regional Conference/Workshop

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- Developed and hosted annual regional Safety Summit
- Wrote and secured multiple grants and private funding for student support programming
- Coordinated efforts with both private and public behavioral health organizations and other stakeholders to develop student support programs.
- Executive board member of Skagit County Child and Family Consortium

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Northwest Educational Service District - 189

Salem Kaiser Threat Assessment Trainer of Trainers

Advancing School Mental Health Conference- Presenter

National Council for Mental Wellbeing Hill Day - Legislative Advocacy

National Association of School Psychologists - PREPaRE Trainer of Trainers

Signs of Suicide Trainer of Trainer

Project AWARE National Conference

Project AWARE Technical Assistance/ Youth Development

Project AWARE Interconnected Systems Framework TOT /Workshop

Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainer of Trainers

National Network Prevention Conference

National Council for Mental Wellbeing Hill Day - Legislative Advocacy

Collaborative Leadership Seminar

National Systems of Care Conference

Student Misconduct and Investigation Training

Response to Intervention

Critical Friends Trainer or Trainer

## PRINCIPAL/ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/DEAN OF STUDENTS

# NORTHSHORE, ARLINGTON, AND EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICTS 1988 - 2012

# Program Development, Committee Work, and Supervision Work:

- Supervised and evaluated classified staff
- Implemented and developed training for new teachers
- Implemented School Safety and Family Reunification Plan
- Led Professional Learning Communities for CTE and English departments
- Developed Culminating Project and Senior Conference program
- Coordinated the Collection of Evidence
- Developed Advisory curriculum for grades 9 through 12
- Created and chaired AHS Scholarship Committee
- Designed High School and Beyond Plan for Alternative High School
- Created and implemented School Improvement Wrap Around Model for at risk youth
- Identified and managed graduation plans for credit deficient students
- Fully involved in the School Accreditation process
- Chaired Building Leadership Team/ Instructional Council
- Assisted Activities Director and revitalized the Leadership Program
- Develop Pyramid of Interventions to support struggling students
- Co-chaired and facilitated all aspects of graduation
- Coordinated Student Engagement Program
- Aided in developing the Master Schedule for Special Education

- · Organized and facilitated staff meetings and professional development opportunities
- Organized and coordinated parent and community volunteer programs

# **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Northshore School District - 2011 -2012
Arlington High School, Arlington, Washington - 2004 -2011
Lynnwood High School, Lynnwood, Washington - 1988 -2004
Taught Honors English, Dramatic Arts, Social Studies, Psychology and Humanities
Coached Soccer, Swimming and Drama

Natalie Gustafson, MS, LMFT #2509, CMHS 13391 Avon Allen Rd Mount Vernon, WA 98273 ngustafson@nwesd.org/360.391.4855

# **Education**

MS Marriage and Family Therapy Seattle Pacific University 2003

BA Child, Consumer and Family Studies (Human Development) Washington State University 1996

## **Experience**

Northwest Educational Service District 189 –	
Assistant Director of Behavioral Health and Prevention	11/19 - Present
Northwest Educational Service District 189 –	
Prevention Program Manager	10/17 - 10/19
Northwest Educational Service District 189 –	
Student Assistance Professional	10/15 - 09/17
Northwest Educational Service District 189 –	
School Based Behavioral Health Therapist	09/13 - 09/15
WSU Skagit County Extension – Adult Education Coordinator	06/12 - 09/13
WSU Skagit County Extension - Senior Nutrition and Activity Facilitator	01/12 - 06/12
Self Employed Fitness/Wellness Trainer	07/09 - 09/17
Owner Tulip Country Bike Tours	04/07 – Present Secret
Harbor - Program Director of Burlington Residential Facility 01/08	3 - 07/09
Secret Harbor - Therapist/Caseworker Cypress Island Residential Facility	10/03 - 01/07
Safeco Insurance Corporation – Quality Assurance Specialist	02/99 - 09/03

# **Teaching and Supervisory Experience**

Provide clinical supervision and direction of Behavioral Health and Prevention Department staff at Northwest Educational Service District

Develop, implement and train education system staff in suicide prevention, intervention and postvention best practices.

Provide ongoing staff professional development, training and supervision at Northwest ESD and Secret Harbor.

Approved Washington State Clinical Supervisor - Supervision of Master's Level Interns WSU Skagit County Extension - Developed, led and taught Adult/Parent/Community Wellness Education Classes

Fit4Mom Classes – Lead and trained staff to teach Parent/Child Classes

Led and taught educational, support and therapeutic groups in community mental health, schools and residential settings

# **Certifications and Licensures**

Child Mental Health SpecialistSeptember 2013Pre/Post Natal Fitness Instruction CertificationJuly 2009

# 2 Natalie Gustafson

Washington State Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure

June 2006

# **Clinical Expertise and Professional Competencies**

- Skilled and experienced in individual and group therapeutic interventions and support for anxiety and mood disorders, ADHD, PTSD, life transitions, attachment, grief/loss, complex trauma, emerging psychosis, crisis and relational/family systems dynamics. My approach is diverse and builds on cultural strengths. I empower client voice and choice with interventions that are experiential, behavioral and increase coping, problem solving and emotional processing.
- Teach and apply evidence-based educational, therapeutic and behavioral programming.
- Washington State Approved Mental Health Professional Supervisor
- Provide behavioral health system technical assistance to five county region of school districts.
- Implement prevention and intervention programming.
- Collect, assess and evaluate data in accordance with state, federal and private grant requirements.
- Facilitate implementation of multi-tiered systems of support.
- Build relationships with community agencies and businesses to support shared goals.
- Develop and market innovative educational, behavioral health and entrepreneurial projects.
- Experience working with a diverse population in a five-county region of Washington State.
- Proven supervision, leadership and management skills.

# **Professional Development**

Lifelines Trainer of Trainers	March 2021
SAMHSA Trauma Informed Organization Trainer of Trainers	June 2019
Advancing School Mental Health Conference	October 2018
National Association of School Psychologists PREPaRE T.O.T.	February 2018
Salem Keizer Threat Assessment Trainer of Trainers	July 2018
Signs of Suicide Trainer of Trainers	May 2017
Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference	December 2017
Project AWARE National Conference	July 2017
Project AWARE Technical Assistance/Youth Development	June 2016
Project Success/Washington State Prevention and Intervention Services	November 2015
National Prevention Network Conference	November 2015
Participation in WSU Food \$ense Conference	September 2012
Fit4Mom National Fitness & Business Conference	October 2010
Approved Marriage and Family Therapist Supervisor Training	August 2008
American Association of Children's Residential Centers Conference	October 2008
Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference	November 2005

## **Continuing Education/Trainings**

Workshops/Trainings in Trauma Informed Practices, ARC and ACES, Youth Substance Disorder Prevention and Intervention, Ongoing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion learning and training in Education and Behavioral Health settings, Educator and Staff Wellness and Self Care, Multi-

NWESD Resume | Natalie Gustafson

Tiered Systems of Support, Interconnected Systems Framework, Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS), Signs of Suicide, Lifelines and Networks for Life Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, Co-Occurring Disorders in Adults/Adolescents, Grief and Loss Counseling, ADHD, Attachment Disorders, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Treatment of Children/Adolescents with Sexual Behavior Problems, Law/Ethics in Marriage and Family Therapy, Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Washington CANS 5-20 Certification, Cultural Competency, Crisis Intervention, Violence Prevention/Safety in Schools, and Introduction to DSM V.

# **Internship Experience**

Evergreen Hospital, Kirkland WA – Family Grief Support Group Therapist, MFT Internship 2002

Compass Health, Edmonds WA – Caseworker/Therapist, MFT Internship 2001-2002 Planned Parenthood of Western Washington, Everett WA – Human Development Practicum 1996

# **Interests**

Human Development, Suicide Prevention, School Based Mental Health and Youth Substance Prevention, Health, Fitness, Nutrition and Wellness, Traveling, Parenting, Reading and Writing Case 2:25-cv-01228-KKE Document 102-1 Filed 07/08/25 Page 34 of 88

# **Eleven Vexler**

# **Experienced Mental Health Therapist**

Masters of Social Work

"Her clinical skills never ceased to amaze me..." Stacey Devenney, Behavioral Health Administrator at Harborview Hospital

- 25 years providing mental health therapy
- 15 years delivering after hours crisis response, including hospitalizations
- 8 years providing supervision to mental/behavioral health clinicians and students in the field
- Experience and knowledge with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues
- Trained in drug and alcohol assessment and treatment for youth
- Extensive experience with depression and self-harm
- Extensive experience with anxiety
- Skilled at leading groups of various sizes and topics
- Experience with training and teaching both within the classroom and at a professional level

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Northwest Educational Service District #189

<u>Project SHARE Program Manager (August 2021 to Present): Assist in the development and implementation of MTSS within 14 different schools in two local school districts.</u>

# Mental Health Therapist with the Skagit County Department of Health

<u>Child and Family Mental Health Therapist (October 2015 to August 2021)</u>:
 Provide individual, family and group therapy to students in the public schools,
 during the school day, within Skagit County.

# **Northwest Educational Service District #189** (Anacortes, WA)

 <u>Child Mental Health Clinician October 2014 – August 2015</u>: Within the school setting, provided case management, individual and family therapy to children ranging from 5 to 18 years of age.

# **Compass Health** (Arlington, WA)

• <u>Clinician II (March - October 2014)</u>: Offered individual and group mental health services to pregnant and parenting teens in a group home setting. Assisted with the milieu of the home. Coordinated with other team members in the facility.

## **Private Practice** (Silverdale, WA)

• <u>Individual and Family Therapist (February 2004 - November 2013)</u>: Worked in an office with several other clinicians providing individual and family therapy two or three days a week. Clients' ages ranged from 13 to 63 and mainly received Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy. Issues addressed included depression, anxiety, adjustment

360-620-7420 • 11vexler@gmail.com

Eleven Vexler PAGE TWO

disorder, work conflicts, family conflicts and drug and alcohol issues. Worked with people who were straight, gay, transgender and questioning.

# **Olympic Educational Service District #114** (Bremerton, WA)

- Student Assistance Professional (November 2004 November 2013): Alternative junior high ages ranged from 13 to 17. Provided both group and individual services to all students, including teaching health class; assistance and referral to students and families who are at risk or impacted by alcohol, tobacco and drugs; and implementing prevention programs.
- <u>Chemical Dependency Counselor (October 2006 July 2007)</u>: Administered outpatient treatment to adolescents in the North Kitsap catchment area. Duties included screenings, assessments, intakes, group and individual services, and case management. Majority of clients also participated in drug court.

# **Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation** (Federal Way, WA)

- <u>Clinical Manager (1999 March 2004)</u>: Duties included providing weekly supervision to approximately 15 therapists and interns; auditing charts; providing back-up crisis services to clients; monitoring and maintaining program budgets; developing and overseeing contracts with school districts; and ensuring public relations are positive.
- <u>Child and Adolescent School Based Therapist (April 1997 April 2002)</u>: Provided day treatment services to youth ages 12 to 17, labeled as severely behaviorally disturbed, within the classroom setting. Services included individual, group and family therapy, case management and teaching social skills. Provided consultation to teachers and monitored the milieu of the classroom.

# **Community Youth Services** (Olympia, WA)

- <u>Interim Program Manager for Crisis Residential Center (June 1996 April 1997)</u>: Supervised 20 full time and part time residential counselors for a residential group home that housed up to 12 youth.
- Employment Counselor (Summer 1995): Provided employment training to youth.
- <u>Senior Staff for Crisis Residential Center (1991 1994)</u>: Provided structured, therapeutic environment for youth ages 12 to 17. Served as a rotating, on-call staff to assist with crisis situations.

# **EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS**

# **Masters of Social Work**

Adelphi University, 1996

#### **BA** in Liberal Arts

The Evergreen State College, 1992

## Certifications

Child Mental Health Specialist Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker Certified to provide Social Work in the Schools Chemical Dependency Professional in Training October 21, 2022

Amy Banks, Program Lead U.S. Department of Education Office of Safe and Supportive Schools 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 3E257 Washington, DC 20202-6450

Letter of Support | Northwest (Washington) Educational Service District 189 to increase the number of credentialed mental health services providers supporting children and youth in schools

Ms. Banks:

Northwest Educational Service District 189 (NWESD) is equipped to lead an ambitious effort to increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health providers serving children and youth in our schools.

As a regional educational service district (LEA) and a licensed Behavioral Health Agency, NWESD works to help support the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of students in 35 school districts. Unfortunately, there is a lack of credentialed mental health professionals, especially those who have the requisite education and training to address the most complex mental health concerns too many of our students are experiencing.

In Washington state, suicide is the second leading cause of death for teens 15-19 years old. In our region, 13,359 students in grade 10 and 12 completed the 2021 Healthy Youth Survey, of which:

- 21% report that they considered attempting suicide;
- 39% report feeling sad or hopeless; and
- 71%-74% report feeling nervous and anxious.

We need mental health professionals in our schools that can provide on-site mental health assessments, diagnose and treat behavioral health conditions, provide safety planning, support students in crisis, increase mental health literacy, and decrease mental health stigma for staff, families, and students.

NWESD's proposal leverages strong partnerships with school districts, higher education, managed care organizations, and community-based organizations to:

- Recruit credentialed mental health providers to serve children and youth in schools across the region;
- Retain credentialed mental health providers, ensuring licensed supervision and support, competitive salary and benefits, and continuing education incentives;
- Sustain services through a variety of funding mechanisms, which includes exploring Medicaid billing options; and
- Encourage professional pathways for persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability, to become credentialed school-based mental health professionals.

We urge you to partner with us to ensure the mental and behavioral health needs of children and youth in northwest Washington are met.

Sincerely,

NWESD Consortium of 36 School Districts | Letter of Support for School-Based Mental Health Services

page 1

<b>School Districts</b>	Student Enrollment 164,000	Superintendent Signature or Designee
Anacortes	2,500	Docusing by: Justin (visu
Arlington	5,539	Docusting by:  Or. Lung Sweeting  STG480F84080.
Bellingham	11,497	Docusigned by:
Blaine	2,176	Gry Baker  SAAFFORDSTARC.  Documental Comments  Christopher Granger  Utristopher Granger
Burlington-Edison	3,335	Letting the state of the state
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Conway	478	Varyone Davidon  2000 Half-Orden  Docusioned by:
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Darrington	430	ZAD7Z3AFBA4249Z.  DocuSigned by:
Edmonds	20,444	Tray Franks  -4467784287438  -Docustigued by:
Everett	20,327	Rebecca Miner — 4788371727411. — Document by:  [lan Saltyman
Ferndale	4,447	Dr. teristi Domingus
Granite Falls	2,209	Josh Middleton
Index	24	JOSE PULPALLION — SAU221889229498.
La Conner	581	——————————————————————————————————————
Lake Stevens	9,620	CALL POSSION  CASSION SCHOOLS  Docustioned by:  KEN Collins
Lakewood	2,666	BBS050380706400 DocuSigned by:
Lopez	251	Scott Peacock == 300000005/AM43
Lummi Nation School	408	SUNPASSORIFT.
Lynden	3,445	Docusingned by: David Vander Tacht
Marysville	10,233	= e460c000AC0e4eA _ — DocuSigned by:
Meridian	1,782	Eachary Robbins — corroborationer.  Document of the control of the
Monroe	6,083	OSFBC80BA21644D DocuSigned by:
Mount Baker	1,694	Marci (arsen  ===================================
Mount Vernon	6,708	OBBE CREATED TO THE CONTROL OF THE C
Mukilteo	15,060	- 67/30000/CREPT-0490  DocuSigned by:
Nooksack	1,880	BISEN ENGLISM —SEGEFERSOCKAL —Docusigned by:
Oak Harbor	5,873	Matt Galley  = FACKSFROOT 48.  Docustinged by:  (Ville II by: (Ville)
Orcas Island	768	Michelle Euss-Cyhula  BE4EDA88677886.  Docustigned by  Eric Webla  BB888F777782471

NWESD Consortium of 36 School Districts | Letter of Support for School-Based Mental Health Services

page 2

San Juan Island	790
Sedro-Woolley	4,479
Shaw Island	10
Snohomish	9,469
South Whidbey	1,224
Stanwood-Camano	4,653
Sultan	1.956

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NWESD Consortium of 36 School Districts | Letter of Support for School-Based Mental Health Services



Counseling Graduate Program

Academic Instruction Center, Department of Psychology 516 High Street, Bellingham, Washington 98225-9172

November 1, 2022

Amy Banks, Program Lead U.S. Department of Education Office of Safe and Supportive Schools 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 3E257 Washington, DC 20202-6450

Letter of Support | Northwest (Washington) Educational Service District 189 to increase the number of credentialed mental health services providers supporting children and youth in schools

Dear Ms. Banks:

We support Northwest Educational Service District's (NWESD) proposal to increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health providers serving children and youth in our region.

Western Washington University's Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling Programs graduate 12 master's level professionals each year. In these small rigorous programs, students have substantive opportunities to acquire evidence-based knowledge and develop their professional and interpersonal skills under the supervision of faculty who are committed to training exceptional counselors.

NWESD is equipped to provide the level of clinical supervision required for early career professionals who want to work within a school setting to support child and adolescent mental health. We agree to work with the NWESD project team to connect them with students to share information about job opportunities, which may include paid work that is applicable to their practicum.

There is a huge demand to accelerate the number of mental health professionals in K-12 settings to provide a continuum of support – from promotion and prevention to intervention and treatment across grade levels. WWU has received numerous inquiries from mental health professionals already working in the community that want to become School-Based Mental Health (SBMH) professionals but are unable to move into this setting because they do not hold a school counseling certificate. Like NWESD, WWU is interested in creating better workforce

onramps for novice and practicing mental health providers to become school-based mental health providers.

We commit to participating with NWESD in regional and state-level conversations that lead to solutions like micro credentialing for practicing mental health providers, and recognition of these professionals as educational staff associates (ESAs) alongside school behavior analysts, school counselors, school nurses, school occupational therapists, school orientation and mobility specialists, school physical therapists, school psychologists, school social workers, and/or school speech language pathologists and audiologists.

We encourage you to support NWESD's proposal to increase students' access to mental and behavioral health services. We are eager to engage in a collaborative partnership to with NWESD and other agencies to meet the demand for mental health providers.

Sincerely,

# Diana Gruman

Diana H. Gruman, Ph.D. NCC Professor, Director of the School Counseling Program (360) 650-2221; Cell (360) 393-7093 grumand@wwu.edu

# Christina Byrne

Christina Byrne, Ph.D.
Professor, Director of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program (360) 650-7945
cbyrne@wwu.edu

NOTE: The Counseling Programs at WWU are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and require a minimum of two years of full-time graduate study. The program includes over 1000 hours of supervised experiences in group and individual counseling and a full year of supervised experience in the schools.

# **Project Narrative File(s)**

\* Mandatory Project Narrative File Filename: NWESD\_SBMHP\_Narrative and Logic Model.pdf

Add Mandatory Project Narrative File

Delete Mandatory Project Narrative File

View Mandatory Project Narrative File

To add more Project Narrative File attachments, please use the attachment buttons below.

Add Optional Project Narrative File

Delete Optional Project Narrative File

View Optional Project Narrative File

# NWESD School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMHP+): Responding to the Needs of Students with the Most Complex Mental Health Concerns

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Management Plan and Adequacy of Resources
Cross-System Collaboration and Coordination
Project Budget
Logic Model
References

#### Other Attachments

Section C Budget Narrative

Individual Resumes for Project Director and Key Personnel

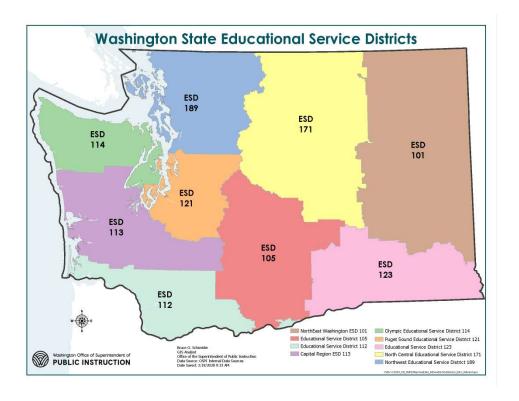
Copy of Indirect Cost Rate Agreement

Letters of Support from school districts in northwestern Washington and Western Washington University

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#### PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Northwest Educational Service District 189 (NWESD) is an LEA as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7801(30) and a licensed Behavioral Health Agency. NWESD provides a continuum of school-based mental and behavioral health services across northwest Washington serving students in 35 school districts in Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties on land of Lummi, Nooksack, Samish, Swinomish, Stillaguamish, Sauk-Suiattle, Upper Skagit, and Tulalip Tribes.



#### **Need for the Project**

There is a critical need to increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health professionals (SBMHP+) with the requisite education, training, and supervision to address the needs of K-12 students with complex mental health issues at school. In the NWESD school service area, 40% of schools are unable to access critical mental health services for students (NWESD Scan, 2021). Some of the identified barriers include geographic isolation, high student to provider ratios, attrition, complexity and intensity of mental health challenges, cumbersome and unsuccessful navigation to community-based services, cultural and linguistic hurdles, and a healthcare system that is overwhelmed.

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**Geographic Isolation** | Schools in two of the five counties are located on islands and the other three counties contain very rural schools that reach east into the foothills of the Cascade Mountain range and north to the Canadian border. There is one major interstate (I-5) through this region and most of the population and services are located nearby, leaving schools furthest from I-5 with very limited access to mental health and other supportive services. These schools are less likely to establish successful community-based mental health partnerships or have refined processes for referring students (NWESD Scan, 2021). When schools do manage to secure community-based services, they are extremely limited due to restrictions on funding and limited capacity. This puts already vulnerable students at great risk. High SBMHP to Student Ratio | Children and youth are more likely to receive mental health services in schools than in any other setting, including doctors' offices or community-based mental health clinics (Duong, Bruns et al., 2020); yet the ratio of credentialed school-based mental health professionals to students is too high to obtain adequate access. In our region, the school counselor to student ratio is 1:640 (NWESD Scan, 2021) and the social worker to student ratio is 1:16,400 (OSPI, 2022). This far exceeds the 1:250 ratio recommended by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA, 2021) and is greater than the national average of 1:415 for school counselors and 1:2,106 for school social workers. The school psychologist to student ratio is 1:710 which is better than the state (1:973) or national (1:1162) average but still inadequate. In addition, school psychologists' scope of work is largely restricted to serving only students eligible for special education services. Students' access to a credentialed schoolbased mental health professional who can provide intensive Tier 3 services, those we are calling SBMHP+, is extremely rare. The SBMHP+ to student ratio is 1:16,400 (NWESD Scan, 2022).

Table 1. Number and ratio of school-based mental health professionals to students in NWESD schools

Professionals	LEA - NWESD region	WA State	National
School Social	1:16,400	1:14,391	1:2,106
Workers	(OSPI Scan, 2022)	(UCLA, 2021)	(UCLA, 2021)
	164,000 students	1,087,354 students	49,356,945 students

NWESD SBMHP+ Project Narrative

	<10 social workers	75 social workers	23,436 social workers	
School	1:709	1:973	1:1162	
Psychologists	(NWESD Scan, 2022)	(NASP, 2021)	(NASP, 2021)	
	164,000 students	1,091,404 students	49,356,945 students	
	231 school psychs	1,122 school psychs	42,476 school psychs	
School	1:640	1:441	1:415	
Counselors	(NWESD Scan, 2021)	(ASCA, 2021)	(ASCA, 2021)	
	164,000 students	1,087,354 students	49,356,945 students	
	256 school counselors	2,465 school counselors	118,902 school counselors	
SBMHP+	1:16,400	No data available	No data available	
	(NWESD Scan, 2022)			
	10% of 16,400 students			
	10 SBMHP+			

Workforce Instability | Washington state is experiencing high turnover and shortages of behavioral health care professionals. The annual turnover rate for clinicians with a master's degree is 28%; the annual turnover rate for all behavioral healthcare staff is 32%; and the average time to fill critical staff positions is five months (Whatcom, 2021). Behavioral health workforce issues are influenced by low wages (\$25 per hour for master's level professional) that fail to attract or retain credentialed mental-behavioral health professionals, a lack of multilingual mental health professionals to meet the community's needs, and a lack of incentive to serve in school-based settings, many opting for private practice where earnings are greater, and caseloads are more controlled (Whatcom, 2021). These factors increase stress and burnout of existing school-based mental health professionals who feel overwhelmed by the number of students in need, the complexity of mental health concerns students experience and the inability to meet those needs.

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Severity and Urgency of Student Mental Health Concerns | The frequency and severity of behavioral health concerns in the region is alarming. In the spring of 2022, NWESD partnered with Mount Vernon School District to administer the Student Risk Screening Scale for Internalizing and Externalizing behaviors (SRSS-IE) to 2,453 elementary students and 1,257 middle school students. The SRSS-IE helps identify students at risk for challenging and anti-social behavior. The SRSS-IE results for elementary students revealed that 44% were at moderate to high risk for internalizing behaviors, and 32% were at moderate to high risk for externalizing behaviors. At the middle school level, 23% of students were at moderate to high risk for internalizing behaviors, and 23% were at moderate to high for externalizing behaviors. In addition, NWESD administered the Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Short Screener (GAIN SS) to students (aged 11 and up) in our region who were referred for intervention services. The GAIN SS identifies students having one or more behavioral health disorders (e.g., internalizing or externalizing psychiatric disorders, substance use disorders, or crime or violence problems) which suggests the need for referral to some part of the behavioral health treatment system. Internalizing behaviors are primarily focused on the presence of symptoms of anxiety, depression, psychosis and suicidal thoughts. Externalizing behaviors are focused on behavioral symptoms such as ADHD and conduct disorder. Substance use questions assess the significance of substance dependent behaviors, and crime/violence focuses on aggressive, oppositional or criminal behaviors. From these questions the screener derives a combined Mental Health score. Students who score in the %w/3+ category are determined to need a referral to mental health assessment and treatment services. There is marked increase in the number of students scoring in the 3+ symptomology; total GAIN symptoms have increased from 47.6% (2018-2019) to 56.9% (2021-22) in just three years. Students' symptoms at the time of this screening exceed the scope and practice of traditional school-based mental health professionals such as school counselors. The seriousness of these students' concerns indicates a need for more clinical interventions and support at school.

NWESD SBMHP+ Project Narrative

Table 2. Nearly 57% of students assessed by GAIN-SS have multiple mental health symptoms (%w/3+)

2018-2019	G/	AIN-SS - Nu	mber of §	tudents wi	ith Numbe	er of Syn	nptoms		
		Total	0	1	2	3+	%w/1+	%w/2+	%w/3+
School Year –	Internal	1,012	538	57	64	309	42.5 %	36.9 %	30.5 %
D C 11	External	1,012	526	60	96	296	44.7 %	38.7 %	29.2 %
Pre Covid	Substance Use	1,012	762	69	48	131	24.5 %	17.7 %	12.9 %
Baseline	Crime/Violence	1,012	743	156	61	51	26.5 %	11.1 %	5.0 %
Dascillic	Mental Health	1,012	508	30	55	356	43.6 %	40.6 %	35.2 %
	Dual Diagnosis	1,012	764	70	52	124	24.3 %	17.4 %	12.3 %
	Total GAIN Symptoms	1,012	504	13	13	482	50.2 %	48.9 %	47.6 %
2019-20 School		AIN-SS - No	umbar of 6	tudanta w	ith Normh	or of Com			
			umber or s	tudents w	un Numbe	3+	%w/1+	%w/2+	%w/3+
Year – Lower	Internal	Total 778	387	28	65	272	46.9 %	43.3 %	35.0 %
	External	778	381	31	81	255	47.2 %	43.2 %	32.8 %
student numbers	Substance Use	778	580	42	48	107	25.3 %	19.9 %	13.8 %
1 4 6 11	Crime/Violence	778	570	108	62	38	26.7 %	12.9 %	4.9 %
due to Covid	Mental Health	778	373	9	39	308	45.8 %	44.6 %	39.6 %
closures in		778		44	54	99	25.3 %	19.7 %	12.7 %
Closules III	Dual Diagnosis	778	580 373	3	9	393	52.1 %	51.7 %	50.5 %
March 2020	Total GAIN Symptoms	110	3/3	.J.	3	333	32.1 /0	31.776	30.3 76
2021 22 G 1 1									
2021-22 School	G	AIN-SS - No	umber of S	tudents wi	ith Numbe	r of Sym	ptoms		
Year – Post		Total	0	1	2	3+	%w/1+	%w/2+	%w/3+
Tear Tost	Internal	885	380	40	55	354	50.7 %	46.2 %	40.0 %
Covid Re-	External	885	378	48	93	321	52.2 %	46.8 %	36.3 %
Covid ice	Substance Use	885	613	69	64	137	30.5 %	22.7 %	15.5 %
	Crime/Violence	885	609	155	61	57	30.8 %	13.3 %	6.4 %
engagement			367	18	41	372	48.7 %	46.7 %	42.0 %
engagement	Mental Health	885	207	1,0					
engagement	Mental Health Dual Diagnosis	885	613	71	66	134	30.6 %	22.6 %	15.1 %

Navigating Access | Increasing school-based services positively affects students with mental health needs (Sanchez et al., 2017). School counselors offer mental health promotion, awareness, education, support (prevention) and intervention. They do not, and in many cases are prohibited from, providing mental health evaluation and treatment at school. To access these services, schools must navigate the complex web of community-based mental health, health care, and insurance systems only to face persistent barriers

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to access. Families are also more reluctant to engage in services they are unfamiliar with and that present additional physical, logistical and financial challenges. Some students and families are hesitant due to culture, stigma, and a lack of knowledge and understanding about mental health services. Without family cooperation, our students have little to no access to care. As a result, student mental health problems often escalate, and schools are faced with more students needing higher levels of support. There are simply not enough school counselors, social workers, psychologists, or "other credentialed" school-based mental health providers (SBMHP+) to intervene early enough to prevent conditions from becoming worse.

\*Hospitals and Clinics Overwhelmed | Child-serving community-based mental health agencies are overwhelmed and understaffed. As recently as this week (Oct 31) agencies in northwest Washington reported that they are not accepting new clients and are limiting services for existing clients. Hospital emergency departments feel the impact. Mental health-related visits to emergency departments for children ages 5-17 between April and October of 2020 increased by 24-31%, compared with the same time period in 2019 (Leeb et al., 2020).

Students in Crisis | There is an alarming increase in the prevalence of students experiencing mental health challenges. Nationally, one in three high school students and half of female students reported persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, an overall increase of 40% from 2009 (US Surgeon General, 2021). In Washington state, suicide is the second leading cause of death for teens 15-19 years old. In NWESD schools (Healthy Youth Survey (HYS), 2021):

- 18% of youth in grade eight and 21% of youth in grades 10 and 12 considered attempting suicide; 18.8% of high school students in the nation considered attempting suicide (YRBSS, 2019).
- 15% of youth in grade eight, 17% of youth in grade 10, and 14% of youth in grade 12 made a suicide plan; 15.7% of high school students in the nation made a suicide plan (YRBSS, 2019).
- 8% of youth in grade eight and 10, and 7% of youth in grade 12 attempted suicide; 8.9% of high school students in the nation attempted suicide (YRBSS, 2019).

NWESD SBMHP+ Project Narrative

- 50% of youth in grade eight, 57% of youth in grade 10, and 63% of youth in grade 12 reported that they were unable to stop or control worrying.
- 62% of youth in grade eight, 70% of youth in grade 10 and 74% of youth in grade 12 reported feeling nervous or anxious.

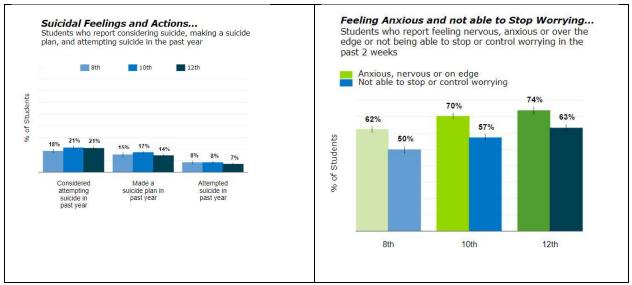


Figure 1. NWESD 2021 Healthy Youth Survey of students' suicidal feelings and actions, students who feel nervous and anxious

More students in our region (14%) have experienced four or more Adverse Childhood Experiences which is greater than Washington state youth overall (11%) (HYS, 2021). Equally concerning is that fewer youth report having no ACEs (39%) as compared to the youth statewide (43%) (HYS, 2021).

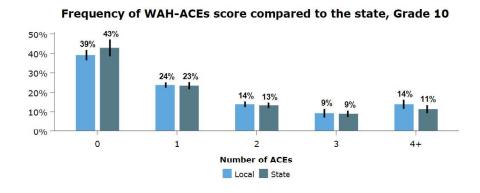


Figure 2. NWESD 2021 Healthy Youth Survey of students in grade 10 that report Adverse Childhood Experiences

Students are shouldering feelings of sadness and hopelessness; 35% of youth in grade eight, 39% of youth in grade 10 and 45% of youth in grade 12 report feeling sad and hopeless (HYS, 2021). National statistics show that 36.7% of high school students experience persistent feelings of sadness and hopelessness (YRBSS, 2019). At the same time, just under half of youth in grades 8, 10, and 12 report that they have an adult to turn to when they feel sad or hopeless (HYS, 2021).

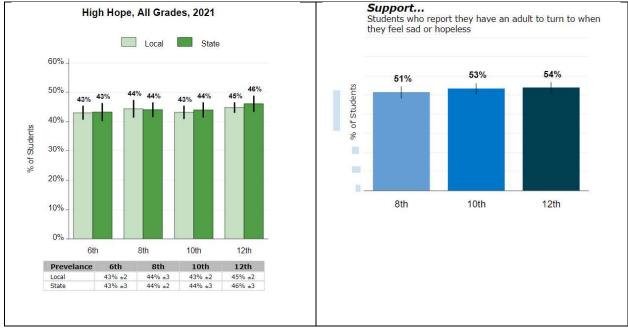


Figure 3. NWESD 2021 Healthy Youth Survey students' feelings of sadness, hopelessness, and without a caring adult to turn to

Students at Greatest Risk | School-based mental health services can close gaps in access for historically underserved populations (Lyon et al., 2013). Underserved groups at higher risk of mental health challenges include racial and ethnic minority youth, LBGTQ+ youth, low-income youth, youth in rural areas, youth in immigrant households, and homeless youth (U.S. Surgeon General, 2021). NWESD's priority population includes 19,680 (12%) English language learners, 37,556 (22.9%) Hispanic/Latino students, 70,028 (42.7%) students experiencing the conditions and consequences of poverty, 4,264 (2.6%) mobile students which include children with a parent in the military, 2,460 (1.5%) migrant students whose families work in agriculture and fisheries, and 5,084 (3.1%) of students experiencing homelessness. National data from the 2019 YRBSS states that students that identify as LGBTQ+ are two times more at risk for feeling persistently sad and hopeless during the past year, to have missed school

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due to safety concerns, and to have used illicit drugs other than alcohol or cannabis. They are three and a half times as likely to have made a suicide plan and four times as likely to have attempted suicide one or more times in the past 12 months. Mental health supports for this population of students can be lifesaving as their risk factors are magnified when compared to the overall student population. Table 3 provides examples of priority populations in NWESD's 35 rural, isolated, and underserved school districts.

Table 3 | Students at greatest risk for mental health challenges in example schools with greatest demonstrated need (OSPI, 2021).

District	English	Hispanic/Latino	Low-	Mobile	Migrant	Homeless
County	language	Students	income			
Enrollment	learners					
WA State	12.5%	25.2%	47.6%	2.0%	2.0%	2.7%
1,091,404						
NWESD	12%	22.9%	42.7%	2.6%	1.5%	3.1%
164,000	19,680	37,556	70,028	4,264	2,460	5,084
Sedro Woolley	8.2%	23.3%	55.5%	4.1%	2.5%	5.9%
Skagit	367	1,044	2,486	184	112	264
4,479						
Mount Vernon	24.6%	56.3%	66.5%	2.8%	16.1%	2.3%
Skagit	1,650	3,777	4,460	188	1,080	155
6,708						
Marysville	12.3%	26.8%	54.8%	4.5%	2.3%	4.5%
Snohomish	1,259	2,742	5,608	460	235	460
10,233						
Monroe	11.3%	25.7%	35.2%	4.4%	0.2%	3.4%
Snohomish	687	1,563	2,141	267	12	207

6,083						
Ferndale	8.4%	23.3%	52.9%	3.6%	0.9%	2.2%
Whatcom	374	1,036	2,352	160	40	98
4,447						
Blaine	4.6%	16%	48.8%	3.8%	0.2%	1.6%
Whatcom	100	348	1,062	10	4	35
2,176						
Oak Harbor	4.1%	20.1%	41.5%	4.9%	0.3%	3.5%
Island	241	1,180	2,437	288	18	206
5,873						
San Juan Is.	5.9%	20.7%	42.2%	3.8%	1.4%	Data
San Juan	47	164	333	30	11	Suppressed
790						

### **Quality of Project Design**

NWESD will increase (Absolute Priority 2) and diversify (Competitive Preference 2) the number of credentialed school-based mental health professionals serving students at school. Specifically, NWESD will recruit, place, support, and retain 20 credentialed school-based mental health professionals (SBMHP+) with the requisite training and clinical supervision necessary to provide Tier 3 behavioral health supports at school – mental health assessment, individual service planning, specific therapy modalities, case management, and transition planning. The SBMHP+ will also participate in Multi-Tiered System of Supports teams and contribute to promotion and prevention of youth mental health which includes outreach to families. Twenty SBMHP+ will increase access for up to 5,000 students (1:250 ratio), including up to 800 students annually who exhibit complex behavioral health concerns.

NWESD will utilize its existing K-12 school-based mental health staffing model to rapidly recruit, hire, place, and support and retain SBMHP+. NWESD's Behavioral Health and Prevention

NWESD SBMHP+ Project Narrative

Department currently provides regional behavioral health navigation support, technical assistance, and direct student assistance and mental health services to students. NWESD employs 10 credentialed, Masters level SBMHP+ who are serving K-12 students in schools with the greatest demonstration of need. SBMHP+ will dedicate 80% of their time to support students who need intensive Tier 3 intervention and treatment and 20% of their time supporting Universal Tier 1 and Selective Tiers 2 strategies (Figure 4). Tier 1 and 2 activities may relate to mental health awareness and promotion activities such as wellness and suicide prevention. Additionally, we staff 18 bachelors level student assistance professionals who provide Tier 2 support in communities with identified risk factors for student success.

A 2018 report exploring the landscape of mental health and wellness in Washington's K-12 education system affirms that an "effective multi-tiered system results in seamless service delivery at increasingly intensive level of support and allows for efficient identification, assessing, monitoring and improvement of mental health outcomes" (Kaiser Permanente, 2018). Because NWESD is also a licensed behavioral health agency (BHA), its SBMHP+ can provide a continuum of behavioral health services. School districts and most credentialed school-based mental health professionals are prohibited from providing this level of behavioral support in Washington state because most schools are not a state-licensed BHA. The following project goals outline how NWESD will recruit and retain SBMHP+ to support an effective and seamless MTSS for students.

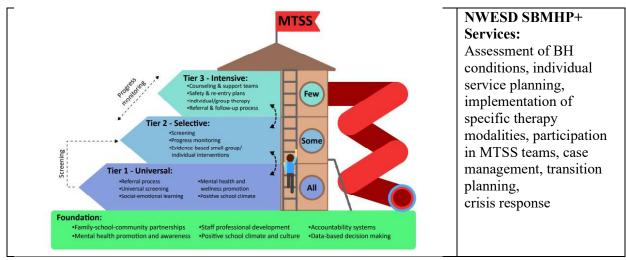


Figure 4. SBMHP+ to add critical capacity to Multi-Tiered System of Supports in schools (Kaiser, 2018)

Goal 1: Increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health professionals in northwest Washington schools from 10 to 30 SBMHP+ by December 2027 (Absolute Priority 2).

Recruit | NWESD partners with Western Washington University to accelerate workforce on amps for graduate students in school counseling and clinical mental health programs. Western Washington University, located in our NWESD region, graduates 12 students each year who have the requisite knowledge and skills to become collaborative and ethical counselors and therapists who value diversity, equity and social justice. Students graduate meeting the relevant pre-licensure requirements to practice under approved supervision in mental health and educational settings. NWESD offers graduates the clinical supervision necessary to work towards state licensure which will prepare them to be SBMHP+ and can employ interns from this program.

NWESD works with colleges and universities across Washington and beyond to recruit a robust workforce of highly qualified SBMHP+. Currently, NWESD has successfully recruited six Student Assistance Professionals (SAP) who are pursuing a mental health related master's degrees at Boston College of Social Work, Walden University, or California Southern University. These students are utilizing their paid position as a NWESD SAP to gain experience and access clinical supervision, and they have expressed intent to continue employment as a SBMHP+.

NWESD will conduct targeted in-person and virtual outreach to directly recruit SBMHP+. This will include outreach at hiring fairs, networking at regional trainings, making presentations on college campuses, and relevant meetings in schools and communities. NWESD collaborates with a network of community-based behavioral health providers – Compass Health, Sea Mar, Catholic Community Services and private practice clinics - to share job opportunities and strategize and inform recruitment efforts.

NWESD will also tap into University of Washington School Mental Health Assessment, Research, and Training (SMART) Center for technical assistance focused on building the mental health workforce in Washington state and delivering research-based strategies, policies, and practices relevant to the education context.

NWESD uses a variety of well-established recruitment tools to advertise SBMHP+ positions:

NWESD jobs webpage, Indeed, Facebook, WorkSource, Washington Association of School Counselors,

American Mental Health Counselors Association, and National Association of Social Workers. This

project will enable NWESD to boost job postings to a broader audience within and beyond the region.

NWESD will clearly articulate the compensation, benefits, training and professional development offered,

and the offer of a \$1,200 annual signing/retention bonus on all job postings.

*Goal 1 project activities* will yield 20 credentialed school-based mental health professionals with 10 being hired in Year 1, plus four hired in Year 2, plus three hired in Year 3, plus three hired in Year 4. We will monitor the following progress indicators and outcome measures:

Goal 1: Increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health professionals in					
northwest Washington schools from 10 to 30 SBMHP+ (Absolute Priority 2).					
Progress Indicators	Outcome Measures				
Number of recruitment contacts	Number of unduplicated, cumulative new school-				
Number of qualified applicants	based mental health services providers hired				
Recruit, hire, and place at least 5 SBMHP+ within	(GPRA 1)				
the first 180 days of Year 1					
Total number of SBMHP+ filled (10 in Year 1, 14					
in Year 2, 17 in Year 3, and 20 in Years 4 and 5)					

Goal 2: Expand the diversity of credentialed school-based mental health professionals serving K-12 students by at least 25% (Competitive Priority 2).

**Diversify** | NWESD will seek and encourage persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability, to become credentialed school-based mental health professionals (Competitive Preference Priority 2). NWESD's 2023 administrative work plan aims to increase the number of qualified applicants from typically underserved groups by at least 25%. This directly supports the project goal to expand the

diversity of SBMHP+. The project leadership team will work with the Human Resource, Communications, Migrant Education, and a cross-disciplinary Equity Committee to inform and curate digital and print content and images to be used for recruitment. By diversifying the workforce of SBMHP+, NWESD will increase access to care for prevention, intervention, and treatment services for populations that have experienced inequities and other disparities in being served by the health care systems. Strategies to accomplish this goal include:

- Project team members responsible for hiring and supervising will complete annual training in equitable hiring practices including recruitment, screening, interviewing, onboarding, supervision, and performance evaluation.
- Job descriptions and interview questions will be reviewed annually through an established equity lens to ensure a more inclusive and accessible job promotion and interview process that removes/reduces any perceived and/or institutional biases.
- Staff encouraged to pursue equity-related training and all professional development offerings include tenants of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI).

These practices have been developed and applied over the last 24 months, leading to successful recruitment and placement of 10 SBMHP+ of which three identify as representatives of underserved groups.

Goal 2 project activities will result in a SBMHP+ workforce that more closely represents the students we serve. We will monitor the following progress indicators and outcome measures:

Goal 2: Expand the diversity of credentialed school-based mental health professionals serving K-				
12 students by at least 25% (Competitive Priority 2).				
Progress Indicators	Outcome Measures			
100% of project leadership team complete	Increase the percentage of qualified applicants			
equitable hiring practices training annually	who are members of groups that have traditionally			
Job descriptions reviewed annually	been underrepresented based on race, color,			

national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, or
disability by 25% (GPRA 6)

#### Goal 3: Increase retention of credentialed SBMHP+ serving K-12 students

**Retain** | NWESD will employ a variety of strategies that lead to higher retention of SBMHP+. These include: (A) equitable compensation and benefits, (B) clinical supervision and support, (C) professional development, and (D) staff wellness.

A. Equitable compensation and benefits: NWESD established a salary schedule for SBMHP+ that is aligned with that of education staff associates (ESAs), such as school behavior analysts, school counselors, school nurses, school occupational therapists, school physical therapist, school psychologists, school social workers, and school speech language pathologists. The salary schedule articulates an appropriate salary placement based on the position requirement of a mental health master's degree which is comparable to other school-based master's level professionals. This includes a starting salary for credentialed SBMHP+ at \$72,192 (\$47.49 per hour compared to \$25 per hour for most master's level positions available in the region) plus a 3.5% cost of living adjustment and 4.5% step increase annually. These positions are on a 190-day contract versus a 260-day contract, which provides greater work-life balance while still ensuring service availability year-round for students. As NWESD staff, SBMHP+ are offered health and long-term disability benefits and retirement through the School Employees Retirement System. As an added incentive, NWESD will offer a \$1,200 retention bonus paid at the time of annual contract renewal. This is a more desirable benefit package than other mental health employers can offer and significantly enhances our ability to attract and retain staff.

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The director (5%) and assistant director (25%) of NWESD's Department of Behavioral Health and Prevention are among others engaged in state-level conversations with the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB), and state policymakers to address system-level workforce barriers which include recognition of SBMHP+ on the ESA salary schedule. This could allow schools to utilize basic education allocations to retain SBMHP+.

- B. Clinical supervision: NWESD's Behavioral Health and Prevention team includes Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Mental Health Counselors, and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists who are state approved supervisors and Child Mental Health Specialists.
  Maintaining a clinical supervisor to SBMHP+ ratio of no more than 1:7, NWESD offers timely and relevant consultation and support. They provide the clinical supervision required for licensure candidates who are completing the necessary post-master's client hours and those in preparation for specific national exams. Pre-licensure Associates can practice under the supervision of approved clinical supervisors.
- C. Professional development and training: SBMHP+ will receive 40 hours of paid time annually for training and professional development. Within the mental health field, having the necessary and appropriate training to meet the behavioral health needs of students is essential. Key personnel leading this project have extensive professional and educational training in clinical and school-based mental health. NWESD Behavioral Health and Prevention Services department is a regional hub for behavioral health technical assistance for school districts. Training and technical assistance includes: culturally inclusive mental and behavioral health supports, MTSS, Interconnected Systems Framework, referral processes and teaming, trauma informed and restorative school practices, universal and targeted screening, suicide prevention, intervention and postvention. To support SBMHP+ who have a continuum of experience from interns to more seasoned professionals, individual training and learning plans will be developed to build on existing knowledge, support for grade levels and specific groups of students they serve and prioritize evidence-based modalities. All

staff will be trained or will have been trained in Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Play Therapy, Family Systems, and Solution Focused Brief Therapy approaches. Other training may include various therapeutic group curriculums and techniques. Professional development sessions will be conducted as part of quarterly SBMHP+ Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and made available either in-person or virtually. Staff will work with their supervisors to identify key training as needed and to ensure they meet continued education requirements that are specific to their state licensure. Staff are also often included in training opportunities and experiences offered by the school districts in which they are placed. In addition to project directed professional development and training, each SBMHP+ will be reimbursed up to \$500 annually for continuing education required for obtaining and/or maintaining professional licensure.

Building and sustaining a cadre of SBMHP+ is complex work. The project leadership team project director, behavioral health administrator, project manager/clinical supervisor - will attend the
(virtually or in-person) Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health facilitated by the
University of Maryland School of Medicine. The conference brings together leaders, practitioners,
researchers, family members, advocates, and other stakeholders in the school mental health field to
share the latest research and best practices. The conference aligns with NWESD values for building
strong school-family-community connections that deliver high-quality, culturally responsive, and
equitable evidence-based mental health promotion, prevention, and intervention to students and
families as part of a multi-tiered system of supports.

D. Staff wellness: In addition to adequate compensation, a 190-day contract that allows for work-life balance, health care benefits, retirement, supportive supervision, staff wellness is crucial to workforce retention. A key component of staff wellness is having strong collegial relationships that support a safe and supportive work environment. The SBMHP+ leadership team will provide quarterly opportunities to convene as a PLC, hold monthly peer consultation groups, and create space on agendas for team building, networking, and collaboration.

The project leadership team has successfully, even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, led efforts to enhance staff wellness. They have extensive training on trauma informed practices and healing centered engagement. These practices guide work with students, families and school staff, and inform how individuals and teams develop as professionals. Project leaders led organizational efforts in becoming a trauma informed organization. NWESD encourages its staff to acknowledge and investigate topics in which they seek to grow personally and professionally. Creating a work culture that builds upon the unique strengths and talents of staff is a core value that influences retention of a healthy SBMHP+ workforce.

*Goal 3 project activities* will result in improved retention of credentialed school-based mental health providers serving children and youth in our schools. We will monitor the following progress indicators and outcome measures:

Goal 3: Increase retention of credentialed SBMHP+ serving K-12 students			
Progress indicators	Outcome Measures		
SBMH salary schedule adopted	Number of unduplicated, cumulative school-based		
Hours of staff development and wellness activities	mental health services providers retained as a		
completed	result of grant activities (GPRA 2).		
Number of hours clinical supervision hours	Rate of attrition of SBHP+ participating in the		
completed	project (GPRA 4)		
Number of SBMH professionals who achieve			
state licensure			
Number of SBMH professionals who retain state			
licensure			
Number of bachelors level professionals seeking a			
master's degree			

#### Goal 4: Decrease student to SBMHP+ ratio from 1:1,640 to 1:547 by December 2027

This project will increase the number of SBMHP+ equipped and able to provide mental health support and treatment services – including diagnostic assessment, evaluation and treatment – in the school setting. Informed by BH-MTSS practices and collected data, students who need this level of support account for an estimated 10% of students in our schools (16,400 students). NWESD currently employs 10 SBMHP+, a ratio of 1:1,640. This project will increase the number of SBMHP+ to 30, a ratio of 1:547. NWESD will obtain prior, written, informed consent from the parent of each child who is under 18 years of age to participate in any mental-health assessment or service funded under this program and connected with an elementary or secondary school.

This level of school-based mental health services is possible because NWESD is both an LEA and licensed Behavioral Health Agency (BHA). NWESD services are covered under Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). NWESD will ensure that any school-based mental health services, including those offered via telehealth, will be provided in an equitable manner and consistent with the FERPA, the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), the HIPAA, and all other applicable Federal, State, and local laws and profession-specific ethical obligations. The use of an electronic record keeping system in this project protects student and family privacy and allows for quality management of mental health services and documents.

NWESD has a plan for prompt delivery of services to students no later than 180 days from award notification. Job descriptions for SBMHP+ are established and recruitment can begin in January 2023. Ten SBMHP+ positions will be filled in Year 1, plus four in Year 2, plus three in Year 3, plus three in Year 4, leading to 20 full-time SBMHP+ serving students in schools.

Leveraging a combination of in-person, hybrid, and telehealth service delivery will improve students' access to services where none are available. NWESD can pair a SBMHP+ serving a medium size school with a small and more remote school. For example, a SBMHP+ at Anacortes Middle School (2,599 students, located on an island with a land bridge) may also be assigned to San Juan School District

NWESD SBMHP+ Project Narrative

(790 students, located on an island only accessible by state ferry), delivering a combination of in-person and telehealth services. NWESD successfully pivoted to telehealth for prevention, intervention and mental health support services when schools reopened during the COVID-19 pandemic. NWESD has established telehealth procedures and guidelines, access to a HIPAA compliant Zoom and use of an electronic record system to enable access to another telehealth technology option. The ability to utilize a telehealth/hybrid model may influence recruitment of professionals who more closely represent the students and families NWESD serves. Telehealth/hybrid services can help place appropriately trained staff in remote locations, reducing lengthy, costly, and sometimes treacherous commutes.

Goal 4 project activities will decrease the SBMHP+ to student ratio. We will monitor the following progress indicators and outcome measures:

Goal 4: Decrease student to SBMHP+ ratio from 1:1,640 to 1:547 by December 2027		
Progress indicators	Outcome Measures	
Number of SBMHP+ placed in schools	Improved ratio of students to school-based mental	
Number of students accessing services in-person,	health services providers and number of school-	
hybrid, or exclusively via telehealth	based mental health providers and students used	
	to calculate the ratio (GPRA 3)	
	Total number of students who received school-	
	based mental health services – in person and/or	
	virtual - as a result of this grant (GPRA 5).	

Goal 5: Diversify funding mechanisms to sustain SBMHP+ in schools

NWESD will sustain services through a variety of funding mechanisms, including school-district cooperative agreements and, potentially, through coordination of Medicaid and private insurance billing. During this project period, NWESD will:

Expand cooperative service agreements with school districts, further developing a braided funding approach to sustain services.

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- Explore and develop the necessary contractual agreements with managed care organizations (MCOs) to coordinate Medicaid and insurance billing for allowable services. This will support long term sustainability, providing critical capacity to expand future services in schools.
- Further develop relationships with county health departments and regional and state behavioral health entities who may be able to contribute to a braided funding approach to sustain services.
- Explore the creation of ESA (educational staff associate) certification for other credentialed SBMHP+ so that school districts can use basic education funds to support these specialized positions. Currently funding for these positions is limited to emergency relief and/or enrichment funds which are often funded by local tax levies. This would encourage other credentialed mental health professionals to seek employment in school-based mental health.
- Define the role of school based mental health professional "therapist" and the requisite
  supervision to ensure continuous support for SBMHP+. Few school districts have staff with the
  requisite credentials to provide the level of supervision required to retain staff with the highest
  level of licensure. NWESD is uniquely positioned as an LEA and licensed BHA and can offer
  this continuous support.

*Goal 5 project activities* will diversify funding mechanisms to sustain SBMHP+ long term. We will monitor the following progress indicators and outcome measures:

Goal 5: Diversify funding mechanisms to sustain SBMHP+ in schools		
Progress indicators	Outcome Measures	
Number and value of cooperative agreements with partnering school districts	Number and amount of funding sources leveraged	
Number and value of formal contracts with	to sustain existing positions	
Managed Care Organizations in Washington state	School systems integrate treatment level services	
that enable NWESD to seek Medicaid	into the overall school based mental health	
	landscape	

reimbursement for allowable mental health services.  School-based mental health professionals considered ESAs, therefore allowing basic education funds to be used to support these positions	Adoption of ESA certification for other credentialed school based mental health professionals
Shared definition of "therapist" adopted and shared understanding of the supervision required to retain professionals	

NWESD will comply with the General Education Provisions Action Section 427, ensuring that no student or staff member is denied participation based on gender, race, national origin, color, disability, sexual orientation, or age. This project is designed to increase student access to credentialed SBMHP+, particularly for underserved groups at higher risk of mental health challenges including racial and ethnic minority youth, LBGTQ+ youth, low-income youth, youth in rural areas, youth in immigrant and migrant households, and homeless youth. NWESD has taken steps in the project design phase to mitigate barriers to access. Grant funds will be used to:

- Recruit, hire, train and support, place and retain credentialed school-based mental health professionals (SBMHP+) serving in schools furthest from services
- Recruit, hire, train and support, place and retain SBMHP+ who are from diverse backgrounds and/or from the communities served
- Provide translation/interpretation services to support virtual interventions and mental health support for students who are English Learners and their families
- Deliver school-based mental health services in-person and virtually
- Allocate time for SBMHP+ to work with families to ensure communication between home and school with constant conversations through web-based visits, phone calls, emails etc.

NWESD SBMHP+ Project Narrative

#### **Quality of Project Personnel**

Key personnel equipped to carry out the project include the NWESD Behavioral Health & Prevention Director (5%) and Assistant Director (25%), plus a full-time Behavioral Health Administrator, full-time Program Manager/Clinical Supervisor, and a part-time Clinical Supervisor (50%) who will begin in Year 2. This staffing ensures adequate clinical supervisor at no more than a ratio of 1:7, and the leadership, influence and expertise to build a durable SBMHP+ program in our region. One full-time Administrative Assistant will provide clerical and logistical support for the life cycle of the project, including coordinating work that directly impacts recruitment, retention, service delivery, and supports mileage reimbursement, travel arrangements, data entry and data integrity, monitoring and reports, and strengthening implementation of the electronic records system within organization and department operations.

Twenty full-time School-Based Mental Health Professionals will provide direct services – a total of 10 in Year 1, 14 in Year 2, 17 in Year 3, and 20 in Years 4 and 5. Table 3 Describes the qualifications of key personnel and their project-related contributions. NWESD will seek and encourage applications from people who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented.

When contracting for professional development services and when hiring consultants, NWESD will reach out to subject matter experts from culturally specific community groups and professionals.

Table 3. Key personnel, credentials, and contributions to the project

Position	Credentials	Contributions	
Director (5%)	MA, Educational Leadership	Lead policy and system change efforts	
Director (370)	WA, Educational Leadership	Lead policy and system change errorts	
	Professional Education Admin Cert	to enable durable retention of workforce	
	(WA)	in our region	
	(WA)	in our region	
	Professional Education Teaching Cert	essional Education Teaching Cert Ensure compliance	
	34 yrs. Ed leadership and educational	Provide fiscal oversight	
	support experience		

	10 yrs. school-based mental health exp.	Institutionalize project into the regional	
		education system	
		Supervise, evaluate the Asst Director	
Assist Dir (25%)	MS, Marriage and Family Therapy	Provide project leadership and direction	
	Licensed Marriage and Family	Establish partnerships, negotiate	
	Therapist (WA)	agreements	
	Child Mental Health Specialist	Develop framework for diversifying the	
	Washington State Approved Supervisor	workforce	
	20 yrs. of mental health work	Diversify funding mechanisms	
	experience	Convene statewide stakeholders	
	9+ yrs. of school-based mental health	(AESD, HCA, OSPI, MCO, CBOs)	
	exp.	Provide clinical supervision for up to 3	
		SBMHP+	
		Supervise, evaluate the Behavioral	
		Health Administrator	
Behavioral Health	MA, Psychology	Oversee all program activities including	
Administrator	Licensed Mental Health Counselor	recruitment, retention and workforce	
(100%, 260 days)	(WA)	diversification	
	Child Mental Health Specialist	Provide clinical supervision for up to 4	
	Washington State Approved Supervisor	SBMHP+	
	30+ yrs. of mental health work exp.	Oversee Electronic Record system	
	7+ yrs. of school-based mental health	Stay current on and maintain	
	exp.	compliance with state behavioral health	
		requirements, including informing and	

		enforcing policies and procedures that
		ensure HIPAA and FERPA
		Monitor program budget
		Coordinate sustainability efforts
		Ensure quality management of mental
		health services
		Oversee state audit
		Coordinate with school, district and
		community-based partners
		Supervise and evaluate the program
		manager, clinical supervisor, and
		administrative assistant
Project Manager/	MA, Social Work	Assist the Behavioral Health Admin
Clinical	Licensed Independent Clinical Social	with all project activities: recruitment,
Supervisor	Worker (WA)	retention, and diversification of the
(100%, 260 days)	Child Mental Health Specialist	workforce
	Washington State Approved Supervisor	Train SBMH providers in policies,
	25+ yrs. of mental health work	procedures, clinical practices, data
	experience	entry, compliance
	15+ yrs. of school-based mental health	Coordinate and monitor professional
	exp.	development
		Manage project deliverables
		Collect, analyze, and utilize data
		Prepare and submit reports
		r

		Provide clinical supervision for up to 7	
		SBMHP+	
		Outreach to schools to ensure	
		effectiveness of services	
		Coordinate SBMHP+ placement	
Clinical	Candidates will have 5+ years clinical	Provide clinical supervision for up to 6	
Supervisor (begin	experience and meet state approved	SBMHP+	
Yr. 2)	supervisor requirements	Contribute expertise to training and	
(50%, 260 days)		professional development	
SBMHP+	Candidates' experience will range from	Deliver direct services to students,	
(100%, 190 days)	intern level to state licensed. Prioritize	focusing 80% of time on Tier 3 support	
	SBMHP+ who reflect our student	and 20% on Tiers 1 and 2 support.	
	population and have school-based		
	mental health experience.		

#### **Management Plan and Adequacy of Resources**

NWESD is responsible for program and fiscal oversight responsibilities and has a successful record of managing Federal funds. NWESD is governed by a Board of Directors that oversees the Superintendent. Both the Board of Directors and the Superintendent will provide executive sponsorship and leadership. The Superintendent will serve as the primary liaison with the Washington Association of Education Service Districts (AESD) - a key player in statewide resource allocations - and will convene a monthly Superintendent's Advisory Council comprised of superintendents from the 35 school districts in northwest Washington. The Director (0.05 FTE) of Behavioral Health and Prevention will serve as the primary liaison between the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (SEA) and statewide directors of school-based mental/behavioral health services. The Assistant Director (0.25 FTE) will serve as primary liaison between partner organizations, including partner school districts,

universities, managed care organizations, community-based organizations, professional and workforce development organizations and will direct project staff responsible for day-to-day operations.

Staffing Design: Special care has been taken to develop roles and responsibilities that will ensure the success of the SBMHP+ project. The design and management of the proposed project takes into consideration the unique role of school-based mental health professionals and the school communities in which they serve. Staffing includes the necessary management and administrative capacity, support for program delivery, rigorous supervision and professional development, and linkages to professional onramps. NWESD is committed to building position profiles that work to attract and retain the best candidates. The leadership team is staffed to provide high quality, licensed clinical supervision to ensure the success of project deliverables. The Behavioral Health Administrator (1.0 FTE) will provide leadership and oversight of implementation, including budget management, compliance, recruitment and retention strategies, clinical supervision, and relationships with school district partners. The Project Manager/Clinical Supervisor (1.0 FTE) will manage project implementation; train SBMHP+ in policies, procedures, clinical practices, data entry, compliance; coordinate and monitor professional development; oversee project deliverables; collect and analyze data, progress monitor; provide clinical supervision for up to seven SBMHP+; engage school personnel to ensure effectiveness of services; coordinate SBMH professional placement. One part-time (0.50 FTE) Clinical Supervisor will supervise up to six SBMHP+ and contribute to and facilitate training and professional development.

Cross-system collaboration | NWESD works in collaboration with related Federal, State, and local organizations to ensure school-based efforts are coordinated. NWESD's school-based approaches are informed by evolving standards from the National Center for School Mental Health (NCSMH), the Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network - including its regional agent, the Northwest MHTTC operated by the University of Washington Smart Center. NWESD has access to these organizations for technical assistance with relevant training and pragmatic policy and procedural guidance.

NWESD SBMHP+ Project Narrative

These organizations and the State of Washington by way of its Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and particularly our Northwest Education Services District are and have been invested in the general growth and development of Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) as a comprehensive approach in school districts to identify and address the varied needs of student populations. NWESD has been involved in directly assisting school districts newly employing this model, which provides us significant experience working with an accepted model integrating specific mental health interventions to broaden school-based social emotional approaches with students.

NWESD continues to work with local Medicaid serving Behavioral Health Agencies (BHA's) and local school districts, to promote access to licensed mental health providers by way of increasing availability of state licensed in-person school-based mental health professionals, school-based tele-mental health services and other mental health support roles in school districts. With assistance from this grant, we aim to reverse the trending dearth of mental health workforce by supporting competitive wages, appropriate clinical supervision, supportive consultation, and comprehensive recruitment efforts.

For purposes of recruitment and diverse workforce sustainability NWESD will partner with local institutions of higher education, including University of Washington, Western Washington University (school counseling/mental health therapist programs), Antioch Seattle, City University Seattle, Skagit Valley College (Human Services program), and other of the region's community colleges.

For purpose of continued and accelerated expansion of mental health services and long-term program sustainability NWESD will continue and enhance collaboration and partnerships with regional Medicaid mental health providers including Compass Health, Sea Mar Community Health Centers, Catholic Community Services of Western Washington, and Consejo Counseling and Referral Services. ESD will continue and expand work with County health departments in its region to leverage local resources earmarked for children's behavioral health services. NWESD will also continue its current collaboration with local school districts and county government supporting local school-based health centers. These collaborations promise success in growing the number of credentialed SBMHP+ in the school community mental health system.

#### **BUDGET NARRATIVE**

A complete budget narrative (Section C Budget Summary) is uploaded to *Budget Narrative Attachment Form V1.2*. Grant funds will be used to support activities related to Goals 1 through 5 as outlined in this proposal. Federal funds include (Section A Budget Summary) \$10,649,935 in direct costs, plus \$762,536 in indirect costs at an approved rate of 7.16%, plus (Section D Budget Summary) \$439,931 in limited administrative expenses. Non-Federal match (Section B Budget Summary) has been committed to support this ambitious effort at a total of \$3,126,340 from Northwest Educational Service District 189 (Applicant), Skagit County (Local), and through cooperative agreements with school districts (Local). The total project cost is \$14,978,742 for 60 months.

Grant funds will be used to supplement, not supplant existing school-based mental health services funds and to expand, not duplicate, efforts to increase the number of providers. To ensure no duplication of efforts, the school-based mental health professions hired as a result of this grant will spend 80% of their time providing Tier 3 services, and 20% of their time providing 2 and 1. This will enhance services offered by school counselors, school social-workers, and school psychologist services. The SBMH professional will become a part of the school-level team to identify and respond to students' needs using multi-tiered systems of support. Having these specially trained and clinically supervised SBMHP+'s on school-level teams will nearly eliminate the delay in access to services students currently experience.

Approach: NWESD will build upon its successful model to recruit, hire, support, and retain credentialed SBMHP+ to serve students at greatest risk for mental health challenges in schools.

Goal 1: Increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health professionals in northwest Washington schools from 10 to 30 by December 2027 (Absolute Priority 2).

Activities & Timeline	Resources	Progress Indicators	Outcome Measures
Partner w/colleges,	NWESD is a LEA and a state	Number of recruitment contacts	Number of unduplicated, cumulative
universities, prof and	licensed BHA (Behavioral	Number of qualified applicants	new school-based mental health
community-based orgs to	Health Agency) which appeals to	Recruit, hire, and place at least 5	services providers hired (GPRA 1)
identify a robust pool of	MH professionals seeking	of 10 SBMHP+ within the first	
highly qualified SBMHP+	licensure	180 days of Year 1	
(Yrs. 1-5)	NWESD HR dept. is	Number of SBMHP+ positions	
Conduct in-person and	experienced at managing the	filled (10 in Year 1; 14 in Year 2,	
virtual outreach (Yrs. 1-5)	employment lifecycle and	17 in Year 3, and 20 in Years 4	
	monitors and reports recruitment	and 5)	
	efforts	Ź	

Advertise with a variety of	Staff are experienced with in-
proven recruitment sites	person and virtual outreach
(Yrs. 1-5)	Advertising contracts
Encourage current	established
bachelor's level staff to	
pursue Mental Health	
master's degree programs	
to become SBMHP+ (Yrs.	
1-5)	
Provide paid internship	
opportunities	

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Goal 2: Expand the diversity of credentialed school-based mental health professionals serving K-12 students by at least 25%							
Resources	Progress Indicators	Outcome Measures					
WWU and NWESD equity	100% of project leadership team	Increased percentage of qualified					
priorities are aligned	complete equitable hiring	applicants who are members of					
Consultation with NWESD	practices training annually	groups that have traditionally been					
Migrant Education and	100% of job descriptions	underrepresented based on race,					
equity team	reviewed annually	color, national origin, gender, sexual					
NWESD committed to	Number of equity-related staff	orientation, age, or disability by at					
		least 25% (GPRA 6)					
1 2 0							
•	•						
•							
	tenants of EDI						
practices training	Established relationships with						
Established equity lens	cultural groups to inform and						
	develop workforce pathways						
	Resources  WWU and NWESD equity priorities are aligned  Consultation with NWESD  Migrant Education and equity team  NWESD committed to workforce equity goal to increase workforce diversity by 25%  Established equitable hiring practices training	Resources  Progress Indicators  WWU and NWESD equity priorities are aligned  Consultation with NWESD  Migrant Education and equity team  NWESD committed to workforce equity goal to increase workforce diversity by 25%  Established equitable hiring practices training  Number of equity-related staff development offerings include tenants of EDI Established relationships with Established equity lens					

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performance evaluation (Yrs. 1-	(e.g., PFLA	AG, Community Action
5)	Latinx Advi	visory)
Use equity lens to review and		
refine job descriptions and		
interview questions reviewed		
and refined annually (Yrs. 1-5)		
Encourage staff to pursue		
equity-related training		
opportunities (Yrs. 1-5)		
Ensure all professional		
development offerings include		
tenants of equity, diversity, and		
inclusion (EDI) (Yrs. 1-5)		

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PREVIEW Date: Nov 02, 2022

Goal 3: Increase retention of credentialed SBMHP+ serving K-12 students							
Activities & Timeline	Resources	Progress Indicators	Outcome Measures				
Establish an equitable	Salary schedule modeled	SBMH salary schedule offered	Number of unduplicated,				
compensation model (Yr. 1)	after credentialed school	State and regional level	cumulative school-based mental				
Participate in state and	counselor/teacher schedule and includes an	meetings held	health services providers retained as a result of grant activities				
regional level behavioral health meetings to address	annual 3.5% COLA	Number of hours clinical	(GPRA 2).				
workforce barriers (Yrs. 1-5)	increase, plus 4.5% step	Hours of staff development completed	Rate of attrition of SBHP+				
Maintaining a clinical	increase, plus \$1,200 contract signing bonus		participating in the project (GPRA 4)				
supervisor to SBMHP+ ratio of no more than 1:7	Director and Asst.	Hours PLC supported	7)				
Offer timely and relevant	Director serve on state- level teams	Hours of monthly peer consultation					
support (Yrs. 1-5)	State approved	Number of SBMHP+					
Provide 40 hours of paid time annually for training and	supervision provided by:  Licensed Independent  Clinical Social Workers,	achieving and/or retaining state licensure					

professional development	Licensed Mental Health	Number of bachelors level
(Yrs. 1-5)	Counselors, and Licensed	professionals seeking a
Participate in national	Marriage and Family	master's degree
conferences for school-based	Therapists who are also	Percent of staff who report
mental health services (Yrs.	Child Mental Health	positively on trauma informed
1-5)	Specialists	workforce indicators of
Convene quarterly PLC	NWESD current and	employee engagement survey
	expanded staffing	Retained staff will demonstrate
Provide monthly peer consultation (Yrs. 1-5)	infrastructure to provide	a higher level of SBMHP skills
	professional development,	and proficiency.
Support a trauma informed	training, clinical	
workplace (Yrs. 1-5)	supervision and support.	Students served by SBMHP's
Conduct exit interviews with	Current NWESD Student	will receive higher quality
SBMHP+ who do not renew	Assistance Professional	services
their employment contract	workforce pursuing	
	master's degree to become	
	licensed SBMHP+ receive	

flex	tible work schedules	
and	internship	
орр	portunities.	
Acc	cess to internal and	
exte	ernal professional	
dev	relopment training and	
орр	portunities.	
Anı	nual employee	
eng	agement and equity	
sur	vey	
Exi	t interview protocol	
esta	ablished	

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Activities & Timeline	Resources	Progress Indicators	Outcome Measures
Place SBMHP+ in schools	Established template	Number of SBMHP+ placed in	Improved ratio of students to school-
Utilize Behavioral Health	agreement and protocols in	schools	based mental health services
Multi-Tiered System of	practice used by10 existing	Number of schools using MTSS-	providers and number of school-
Supports for Behavioral Health	SBMHP+	BH in schools	based mental health providers and
(MTSS-BH) to better match	Existing training on MTSS-	Caseload number for all Tiers of	students used to calculate the ratio
student needs to specific	BH model, effective	services; school counselors report	(GPRA 3)
SBMHP+ role, focusing 80% of	screening and referral	increased capacity to provide Tier	Total number of students who
time on Tier 3 and 20% on Tiers	processes	1 and Tier 2 strategies designed to	received school-based mental health
1 and 2 (Yr. 1-5)	Existing telehealth services	prevent escalation	services – in person and/or virtual -
Strategically utilize telehealth	meet applicable privacy	Number of students accessing	as a result of this grant (GPRA 5).
and/or hybrid model to improve	requirements and standards	services in-person, hybrid, or	
access to services where there is	of care	exclusively via telehealth	
significant provider ratio			
imbalances. (Yr. 1-5)			

Explore ESA cert so that basic	Coordinate with Office of	retain SBMHP+ with state		
education funds can be utilized	Superintendent of Public	licensure		
to retain this level of staff (Yr.	Instruction, Department of	School-based mental health		
2-3)	Education, Professional	professionals considered ESAs,		
Define the role of SBMHP+	Education Standards board	therefore allowing basic		
"therapist" and "supervision" in	to strategize best method to	education funds to be used to		
the context of school systems	broaden definition of school	support these positions		
and policies. (Yr. 4-5)	based mental health	School systems integrate		
	professional and inform	treatment level services into the		
	ESA recognition	overall school based mental		
	Review and utilize	health landscape		
	Washington Health Care			
	Authority 2022 Medicaid			
	School-Based Behavioral			
	Health Services Billing			
	Toolkit			
I				

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## This ambitious work will improve/expand an existing approach. Specifically, Goals 1-5 will:

- Improve infrastructure and expand capacity to increase the number of SBMHP+ in northwest Washington schools from 10 to 30.

  SBMHP+ will dedicate 80% of their time to support students in need of Tier 3 support, enabling existing school counselors to dedicate 80% of their time to mental health promotion and prevention (Tier 1 and 2). This will add much needed capacity and expertise to provide a continuum of MTSS-BH services for students.
- Expand effective strategies aimed at recruiting, hiring, supporting and retaining a SBMHP+ workforce that more closely represents the communities we serve.
- Strengthen and institutionalize retention strategies.
- Advance efforts to diversify funding through cooperative agreements between LEAs, county governments, managed care
  organizations, private insurance companies, and others.

### This approach will address existing barriers by:

- Addressing pay equity issues by establishing a salary schedule that aligns with certificated teacher/counselor pay
- Addressing the lack of credentialed school-based mental health providers with the requisite expertise to provide Intensive Tier 3 support for students at school
- Expanding capacity of a team of state licensed clinical supervisors equipped and dedicated (time) to provide high quality supervision and support that leads to improved retention
- Building a more robust workforce serving students

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• Seeking reimbursement through a variety of payees while ensuring access to all students, regardless of their ability to pay

### This approach will be sustained by:

- Diversifying funding mechanisms to support SBMHP+ services by implementing an electronic case management system that facilitates confidential case management, monitoring, and establishes the necessary capacity for seeking reimbursement for allowable services
- Firmly establishing the role of a SBMHP+ within more schools

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# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BUDGET INFORMATION NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 1894-0008
Expiration Date: 09/30/2023

STATES OF MAN		NON-CON-	SIKUCIIUNI	PROGRAM	13				
Name of Institution/Org	ganization							r should complete the co	
Northwest Educati	onal Service Dis	strict 189						g for multi-year grants sl ns before completing for	
			SECTION U.S. DEPARTM	N A - BUDG MENT OF E		_	os .		
Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	4	Project Year 5 (e)	Project Year 6 (f)	Project Year 7 (g)	Total (h)
1. Personnel	829,014.00	1,156,184.00	1,434,330.00	1,727,84	17.00	1,745,751.00			6,893,126.00
2. Fringe Benefits	315,025.00	483,285.00	599,550.00	722,24	10.00	729,724.00			2,849,824.00
3. Travel	17,218.00	20,938.00	23,728.00	26,51	.8.00	26,518.00			114,920.00
4. Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00			0.00
5. Supplies	6,650.00	5,445.00	5,540.00	6,21	.5.00	5,300.00			29,150.00
6. Contractual	7,300.00	9,100.00	10,450.00	11,80	00.00	11,800.00			50,450.00
7. Construction	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00			0.00
8. Other	95,295.00	128,185.00	149,071.00	169,95	7.00	169,957.00			712,465.00
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	1,270,502.00	1,803,137.00	2,222,669.00	2,664,57	77.00	2,689,050.00			10,649,935.00
10. Indirect Costs*	90,968.00	129,105.00	159,143.00	190,78	34.00	192,536.00			762,536.00
11. Training Stipends	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00			0.00
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	1,361,470.00	1,932,242.00	2,381,812.00	2,855,36	51.00	2,881,586.00			11,412,471.00
(1) Do you have a (2) If yes, please p	n Indirect Cost Rate A provide the following it red by the Indirect Co	Agreement approved by information: st Rate Agreement:	y the Federal government of the From: 09/01/202	ment?	Yes	No		answer the following qu	estions:
	ederal agency: 🔀		ase specify):						
program or a r (4) If you do not h	rst Federal grant, and restricted rate program ave an approved indir	n, do you want to use the rect cost rate agreemen	he de minimis rate of nt, do you want to use	10% of MTDC? e the temporary i	rate of	Yes No If 10% of budgeted sa	yes, you must comp laries and wages?	be, and are not funded usely with the requirements	of 2 CFR § 200.414(f).
Is inclu	ided in your approved ate Programs (check	k one) Are you using Indirect Cost Rate Agr one) Are you using a of 8 percent of MTDC (	reement? Or, C	Complies with 34	— Is ii	ncluded in your appi	The Restricted Indire roved Indirect Cost I nt of MTDC (See ED	ect Cost Rate is  Rate Agreement, becaus	%. se it is lower than the

PREV**ERN524**te: Nov 02, 2022

Name of Institution/Org	ganization			Applica	Applicants requesting funding for only one year			
Northwest Educational Service District 189				should 1." App grants s	should complete the column under "Project Year  1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns.  Please read all instructions before completing			
	SECTION B - BUDGET SUMMARY NON-FEDERAL FUNDS							
Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 Project Year 3 Project Year 4 Project Year 5 Project Year 6 (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)					Project Year 7 (g)	Total (h)
1. Personnel	248,026.00	367,746.00	424,458.00	529,991.00	679,584.00			2,249,805.00
2. Fringe Benefits	94,250.00	118,525.00	172,419.00	215,287.00	276,054.00			876,535.00
3. Travel								
4. Equipment								
5. Supplies								
6. Contractual								
7. Construction								
8. Other								
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	342,276.00	486,271.00	596,877.00	745,278.00	955,638.00			3,126,340.00
10. Indirect Costs								
11. Training Stipends								
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	342,276.00	486,271.00	596,877.00	745,278.00	955,638.00			3,126,340.00

**SECTION C - BUDGET NARRATIVE (see instructions)** 

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Name of Institution/Organization					Applicants requesting funding for only one year			
Northwest Educational Service District 189					complete the column u dicants requesting fund should complete all appread all instructions be	ding for multi-year plicable columns.		
IF APPLICABLE: SECTION D - LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES								
<ul> <li>(1) List administrative cost cap (x%): 5.00</li> <li>(2) What does your administrative cost cap apply to? (a) indirect and direct costs or, (b) only direct costs</li> </ul>								
Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Project Year 6 (f)	Project Year 7 (g)	Total (h)
Personnel     Administrative	37,321.00	41,742.00	64,482.00	66,739.00	69,075.00			279,359.00
Fringe Benefits     Administrative	14,219.00	16,956.00	26,193.00	27,110.00	28,059.00			112,537.00
3. Travel Administrative	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
Contractual     Administrative	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
5. Construction Administrative	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
6. Other Administrative	9,607.00	9,607.00	9,607.00	9,607.00	9,607.00			48,035.00
7. Total Direct Administrative Costs (lines 1-6)	61,147.00	68,305.00	100,282.00	103,456.00	106,741.00			439,931.00
8. Indirect Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
Total Administrative     Costs	61,147.00	68,305.00	100,282.00	103,456.00	106,741.00			439,931.00
10. Total Percentage of Administrative Costs	5.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00			

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